



Todwick Primary School

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NEWSLETTER MAY 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to report that the children are settled very happily in school within their bubbles and are following the Covid rules routinely now. We are still feeling the joy and relief of having them all back in school, as are many of you, I expect! Teaching and learning is proceeding very well in spite of the continued restrictions we face.

As the country begins creeping out of lockdown, we are happy that we can gradually reintroduce some semblance of normality in tiny steps through activities such as educational visits and school swimming lessons. Each activity is carefully risk assessed and managed closely to ensure safety is always maximised.

Visits and Activities

Y3, Y4 and Y6 now have class visits planned for the summer term and we will update you as soon as other visits are arranged.

School swimming will resume after half term. In order to ensure bubbles are not compromised, this will be for Y3 only until the summer break. We anticipate all other classes may recommence with swimming lessons in September.

We are looking forward to the time we are able to re-open our dining room so that normal lunchtime service can resume, along with original school start and finish times. We await updated guidance and will let you know as soon as these are possible.

It is uncertain at this point whether sports day will go ahead this year but we will inform you as soon as we can.

Learning Catch-Up Plans

Over the last term, our teaching teams have been working very hard and lots has been going on in school. We have assessed all of the children individually so that interventions can be put in place where needed to address any learning gaps. We have received government funding which is being put to good use to help all children get back to a position where they are able to achieve their full learning potential.

Well-being

We are noticing a positive improvement in the well-being of children who were affected by the national lockdown, the long periods of isolation at home and missing out on so many important social aspects of school life. Every effort is being made by our teaching staff to help children who have suffered with their confidence and well-being.

Staffing and Baby News

I'm sure you will join us in congratulating Mrs Hill who had a baby girl and Mrs Helen Gabbittas (wraparound care) who had a baby boy in April.



Miss Naylor returned to work this week after maternity leave following the birth of her baby girl last year. She will take over the job-share position from Mrs Hill in Year 5.

Work around School

Over the last year, amongst other things, Mr Haywood has been busy co-ordinating the installation of a very welcome air conditioning system across the whole school. We are looking forward to a cooler, more productive summer term of learning for the children. The heat from the large windows in our beautiful, bright classrooms has always created stifling greenhouse effect temperatures every summer and affected the children's concentration considerably. We just need some sunshine now to try out the new system!

We have also had some new security doors fitted and a refurbishment to the swimming pool. Thank you to Mr Haywood for all his hard work.

General Reminders

- Please park considerately and safely around the school entrance, avoid double parking and parking on yellow lines, zig-zags or pavements. We regularly receive complaints from the local residents and safety concerns from parents so please help keep children safe by parking a little bit further away when necessary and walking to school if possible.
- INSET days originally planned for 28th May and 28th June are now cancelled. School closes for students on Friday 16th July.
- Name **all** items of school equipment including P.E. kits, shoes/trainers, hats, scarves, etc.
- Please send a named water bottle to school every day – re-filled at home with water only please.

Although it is still not permitted for parents or visitors to enter the school, please remember that our prime concern is for the well-being of our children and families and the children's needs are paramount. If you need to speak to a member of staff, simply email or phone the school and we will get back to you as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your continued support and patience over the last difficult year.

Sue Oakes
Head teacher