



Midsomer Norton Primary School

Head teacher: Mr Alun Randell

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have been really impressed by how well all of our children have coped with the return to school for all pupils. Our children have had to be very resilient at times this year and more than a few said they had a few butterflies on Monday morning but that by the end of the day they were feeling much better.



We are also very pleased with how the majority of our children have managed to sustain and develop their learning during lockdown. This is due to the hard work and support of our families at home and the dedication of staff to providing remote learning of a very high standard. Inevitably, there will be areas that need consolidation and revisiting and we have revised our curriculum to ensure that key learning in all subjects is prioritised.

Parents' evenings

We will be holding online Parents' Evenings on Thursday 25th March and Tuesday 30th March to enable parents and carers to discuss their child's progress and pastoral matters with their child's teacher. Please look out for a letter with details on how to book on Monday.

World Book Day

On Thursday, we held our own World Book Day - a week later to enable us to celebrate with everyone in school. Our children and staff were very creative in their costumes. I had to model resilience after my 'Cat in the Hat' hat blew into a muddy puddle!



Red nose Day

On Friday 19th March, it is Red Nose Day. We would like to support this national charity fundraising event by challenging our children (and adults) to come to school as red as possible! I would request though that red noses are painted on with face paints rather than have children wear red noses as we know from experience that red noses tend to be taken off, put down, lost and (usually) re-found. We think that it would be wise to avoid this at this time due to COVID safety measures.

Relationships, Health and Sex Education Consultation

Back in November and December, we attempted to complete out Relationships, Health and Sex Education consultation online but this was twice postponed. We will now run this session next Thursday 18th March at 4:00pm. If you would like to attend this session, please contact the school office for an invitation. The original letter explaining our new PSHE scheme which includes our relationships, health and sex education curriculum can be found on our school website here: <https://www.midsomernortonschoolpartnership.com/uploads/files/pshe-letter-2020.pdf>



Attendance

Attendance from March is compulsory. Please contact us if there are any issues about your child returning to school.

Child sick?

If your child has a temperature, continuous cough or loss of sense of taste and smell, they (**and any siblings**) must not attend school unless they have had a negative COVID test and the symptoms have disappeared.

School Dinners

Please book school dinners on ParentPay, they need to be booked one week in advance

Online Book Shop

Visit our [scholastic book shop](#) to buy books to shop and the school receives 25p for every £1 spent! All funds raised will be spent on books for our library

Healthy packed lunches

Please ensure that your child's lunchbox is healthy and **DOES NOT CONTAIN ITEMS THAT CONTAIN NUTS AS WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL AND WE HAVE BOTH CHILDREN AND STAFF WITH SEVERE NUT ALLERGIES. FOODS CONTAINING NUTS WILL HAVE TO BE REMOVED FROM CHILDRENS LUNCH BOXES.** No fizzy drinks are allowed in school. Drinks bottles that children have in the class should only contain water.

Rosie the School Dog

Rosie had her much postponed second school dog assessment. I am really pleased to announce that Rosie passed but with some caveats. Ali Scott, the animal behaviourist, explained that Rosie is such a lovely dog I need to be careful that I do not take advantage of her good nature and mistake her coping with activities with her enjoying activities. Rosie's time in school will be limited to a maximum of three mornings in school each week to ensure she gets sufficient rest. She will continue to work closely with a limited number of children. All other children will continue to see her in school when, for example, we pop into class to say a quiet good morning each day. Ali did advise that I avoid greeting families as they come in in the morning together with Rosie, however. I know that Rosie has a few fans amongst our parents and carers so I am sorry to break this news!

Maintaining social distancing

I would like to thank you all for supporting the school with our COVID safety measures. I have had to remind a few parents and carers about the need to maintain social distancing. As you may be aware, the risk of all children returning to school is less about children themselves being back in school but the associated increase in social interactions - particularly amongst adults and how that might contribute to a rise in transmission rates. We are constantly trying to find the appropriate balance between safety measures and the smooth running of the school. I am eager to avoid measures such as one way systems for drop off and collections which I think would be very difficult to make work on our site without massive disruption so I would ask all parents to continue to maintain that distance between themselves. I know it is hard! Thank you for your understanding.

Have a lovely weekend.
Best wishes,

Mr Randell
Headteacher

News

Can we help?

Midsomer Norton Primary School holds Foodbank Vouchers. Please speak in confidence to reception who will be able to give you further information.



Don't forget that you can catch up with what's going on in school on our twitter feed:

<https://twitter.com/MSNPrimary>



Like us on our Facebook page! Search for Midsomer Norton Primary School and Nursery

All letters are uploaded to the school website.