

# Newsletter

## November 2020



Shankhill C of E Primary School

Hethersgill

Carlisle, CA6 6JA

[office@shankhill.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:office@shankhill.cumbria.sch.uk)

01228 577264

6 November 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

### Attendance

Attendance remains statutory for all pupils, and as normal, any absences from school must be reported by 9:15. Attendance at this time of year can fluctuate for many reasons, such as winter colds, hospital appointments etc., so please do not be alarmed if your child informs you of any absences. **The school will notify you if there are any outbreaks of headlice, sickness or COVID-19 cases.**

Some schools are seeing parents choosing to remove their children from school due to the lockdown. However, if there is no medical or other valid reason, other than parental preference, the Government and Local Authority have advised us that such absences **MUST be recorded as unauthorised (this may be followed up by the authorities if absence persists)**. In addition, there is no expectation that schools should continue to provide Free School Meals to a child's home or provide a home learning curriculum.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss them.

### New National Restrictions – 5 November 2020

New national restrictions came into place on 5 November 2020, and include the following legally enforceable rules:

- While pupils may be outside to travel to and from school, other than for those journeys the same rules apply as to the general public.
- Pupils should only be outside for exercise, either with people from their household or one other person, or for one of the other reasons specified in [Government guidance](#). We understand this may feel particularly challenging for young people who spend their day with their friends but have only very limited scope to meet with them outside of school.

We have been informed that Cumbria Police will be taking a proactive approach to engagement and enforcement activity with the whole population.

### Face covering for Parents/Carers at school

In line with guidance, and with immediate effect, we request that all parents and carers wear a face covering when dropping off and picking up children from school.

### Free School Meals

Work is ongoing to develop a system to support schools with Free School Meal provision in the event of bubble closures or Tier 2 measures. In addition, if your financial circumstances have changed, and you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals, please follow the link below:

<https://cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/schoolsandlearning/freeschoolmeals.asp>

*"This school continues to be good... maintains good quality education... pupils gain a sense of achievement from their lessons... they display excellent attitudes towards their learning... behaviour in lessons and around school is impeccable... Staff are welcoming and inclusive... strong Christian values are promoted well... (results) well above that of other schools nationally" Ofsted 2019*

*Staff "strive to ensure that pupils are happy, while making education fun and enjoyable." Parent View 2018*



Eco Schools

[www.shankhill.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.shankhill.cumbria.sch.uk)

### **After School Clubs**

The provision of out-of-school activities, including Breakfast Club and After School Clubs, has been reviewed by the Government, and new guidance states that out-of-school activities may continue to operate if their primary purpose is providing registered childcare/activities where this is reasonably necessary to enable parents to work (or search for work) or undertake training or education.

If your child is currently down to attend a Club and you feel that this does not apply to your circumstances, please email Mrs Laithwaite at [office@shankhill.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:office@shankhill.cumbria.sch.uk) and we can arrange a refund or to carry the money forward when your child restarts Clubs.

### **School fleeces**

School fleeces are available to buy from the school office as the days get colder, however, a waterproof layer is still required as they are not waterproof.

### **School Photographs**

The order forms for school photos were sent home last week. You can order photographs online and we would encourage you to order in this way. Orders can also be placed via school and must in by Wednesday 11 November at the latest. Cheques should be made payable to TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHY and have your name and reference number on the back.

### **100 Club**

There's still time to participate, so please complete the form and return by Friday 13 November 2020. The first draw will take place at the end of November and it will be a double draw. Prizes will be determined once we know how many people want to participate, but last year first prize was £10 and second prize £5. Last year we raised over £150 through our 100 Club draw which was spent on Early Years playground equipment and also getting the school garden growing again – and we would like to make it even bigger this year.

### **Remembrance Day**

Poppies and other items will be available all next week in school. If your child would like to make a donation, please send any money in an envelope.

### **Children in Need – Friday 13 November**

Next Friday is Children In Need, and we would love everyone to come to school in something spotty and/or yellow and make a small donation by paying a fine for not wearing school uniform.

You can also take up the challenge set by Children In Need - they are asking you to take your age and do something good with it. Simply take your age, the combined age of your friends, family and workmates, or the age of something or someone special, and turn it into a fundraiser. It could be the distance you cover, the duration you do it for, the number of things you do or your sponsorship target.

A sponsorship form will be sent home so you can complete it if you decide to participate.



### **Boxes of Hope Cumbria**

Thank you to everyone who supported our local shoebox charity again this year. The boxes will begin their journey to a child in Romania next week.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Lynnsey Batey  
Head Teacher