



The Valley Federation of Edale C of E and Hope Primary Schools NEWSLETTER - 8.9.20

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the start of another school year. The children have arrived full of enthusiasm and looking so smart. All of them have settled in so well. We have welcomed 8 new Reception children at Hope and 5 at Edale, as well as 5 other children across the school at Hope. We hope they all enjoy their time in our schools.

The first week or so we are focusing our work on helping the children feel safe and comfortable in their new classroom environments. Staff have worked extremely hard over the holidays to ensure their classrooms are inviting and supportive for the children's learning. Over the next week, you will receive a letter from your class teacher with more specific information about activities, homework, expectations, what the children will be learning, which are their PE days etc...

Communication

I shall be based at Hope Monday and Tuesday all day and Wednesday pm. I shall be at Edale Thursday and Friday all day and Wednesday am. I shall be contactable at either school Hope 620541 or Edale 670280 or via e-mail headteacher@hope.derbyshire.sch.uk or headteacher@edale.derbyshire.sch.uk. When I am not on site, Mrs Winfield will be able to deal with queries at Hope and Mrs Garmeson at Edale. If there are things you wish to speak about related to your child, please speak to their teacher first.

Please note that Mrs Huntington will not be in the office at all on a Friday as she will be supporting Puffins class.

School Attendance

At this time of the year we have a lot of children suffering from colds. Please may we remind you that children can attend school with a cold. If they require medication, please hand it in to the adult at the door in a morning and fill in a form (from the entrance) giving us permission to administer it. The medication should be labelled with your child's name and when/how much it is to be administered. For clarification, sore throats and blocked or runny noses are not symptoms of coronavirus. If your child has a new continuous cough or a fever or a loss of or change in their sense of smell or taste, they may have Coronavirus. Your child should stay at home, isolate for at least 10 days and be tested. Other members of your household should also self-isolate for 14 days from the point when your child first shows symptoms. Please note that we do have a limited number of home test kits available in school and only for parents who cannot access tests in the usual ways.

School Dinners

For years 3 and above, dinners are £2.20 a day, £11 a week paid in advance, preferably for the term as a cheque made payable to 'Derbyshire County Council'. We are currently looking into Parent Pay - an online system for paying for dinners/trips and will let you know if and when it can be sorted.

Clubs

Clubs have started - please see the school website for details of which clubs are available and the cost.

Planned Activities

We are following Derbyshire Guidance and our Risk Assessment (on the school website) to plan a range of activities such as Christmas and Harvest for the children. We will send out a list as soon as possible. All dates will of course be provisional at this stage and organisation may have to change dependent on current guidance at the time.

Regular activities:

- Outdoor Education lessons at the Hope Conservation Area or the school site. Puffins are in the Autumn Term on a Tuesday afternoon.
- Swallows at Edale will have Forest Fun on Wednesday afternoons at Edale Island.
- Swimming has been booked at Bakewell Pool so each child will get a block of swimming lessons. We are still waiting for guidance as to when Bakewell Pool will re-open.
- Band/instrumental lessons - we are awaiting further guidance but will get these started as soon as allowed.

Please do come and talk to staff at the end of the school days (social distancing of course) should you have any worries or ideas on how we can make our school even better. You can contact your class teacher as follows:

Hawks - swinfield1@hope.derbyshire.sch.uk

Owls - nadinew1@hope.derbyshire.sch.uk

Puffins - sclifton@hope.derbyshire.sch.uk

Swallows - jgarmeson@edale.derbyshire.sch.uk

Remember that you can e-mail myself or governors with questions and comments - jpayne@edale.derbyshire.sch.uk or askagovernor@hope.derbyshire.sch.uk.

We are looking forward to an exciting term and hoping that it is less disrupted than last year!

Yours sincerely

Miss S Fisher

Executive Headteacher

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