

# SCHOOL NEWS

New Harvest Date | Re-scheduled Flu Immunisation | Trees

## Welcome Back

It has been fantastic to re-open the school and welcome everyone back to their classes this week. My thanks to Mr Dugdale and the site team for a fantastic deep clean during the two weeks before the half term. Carpets were cleaned, walls washed, furniture disinfected - even the library books got a wipe down. The school was like a shiny new pin and also had the opportunity to stand empty for the week of half term.

As I said in my previous letter, we have taken the opportunity to make our way of working even safer and go above and beyond the guidance set out by the government. Thank you for adhering to our guidance for wearing face coverings whilst on the school premises. I sincerely hope we don't have any further closure of bubbles, but as we are in such a heightened stage of the second wave of the virus, I'm afraid we almost have to expect it. If your child becomes unwell and tests positive for the virus, please email me immediately on the headteacher email - whatever the time or day. We will begin the Track and Trace process immediately and identify the close contacts. Please be mindful that we do not always have to close the whole year group bubble if we can identify close contacts within the 48 hour period before symptoms or a positive test. I will however, continue to write to the whole year group upon knowledge of a positive test to avoid any confusion. Please keep a regular check on your email for news of any necessary isolation.

## “School attendance continues to be mandatory...”

In the most recent guidance released this week, the Government have stipulated once again, that school attendance is compulsory. Unlike the summer term of 2020, it is no longer optional for parents to send their children to school. All children must attend and if they don't, the Education Welfare Service will pursue and may issue fines.

There are only a few of exceptions to this rule:

- ✓ Your child has an illness unrelated to COVID-19. Please note the 48 hour rule for sickness and diarrhoea still applies (counted from the last instance)
- ✓ Your child has any suspected COVID-19 symptoms - in this case we recommend a test is taken and that you keep your child at home until the results are received.
- ✓ You have been asked by school to enable your child to isolate due to close contact with a positive case. Please note, in this case, your child must NOT leave the house, this includes going to the park and accompanying a sibling to school
- ✓ A house member tests positive. Please let the school office know and we will arrange for home learning to be provided.

If you do not send your child to school for any of the above reasons, the absence will be unauthorised and home learning will NOT be provided.





We were due to have our Harvest donations collected before Half Term. However, due to our closure this couldn't happen. We have been able to re-arrange a new collection date with The Wellspring and so if you would like to donate, please bring your items to the classroom by Thursday 12th November (next week). See below for their specific wish list. For



convenience, you may prefer to make a donation so supplies can be bought by The Wellspring themselves. Attached to this email is a flyer with further information about what different amounts can buy and how to make payment.



## Remembrance Sunday

In normal times, it is the responsibility of the Head Boy and Head Girl to place our poppy wreath at the memorial service on behalf of Etchells. You will be aware that sadly, this event will not be going ahead. We will, however, still be donating a wreath from our school which will be placed on our behalf.

Kind regards,  
Cathy Beddows  
and the  
Etchells staff



## Tree Planting

On Monday, Etchells Primary School became part of The Northern Forest. Year 5 worked with Manchester City of

Trees and Mrs Plumb to plant just over 100 saplings around our Forest School area. The Northern Forest is an ambitious project which aims to plant 50 million trees across the north of England, from Liverpool to Hull. It will reduce the risk of flooding, help reverse climate change by storing thousands of tonnes of carbon, create thousands of new jobs and support people's wellbeing. Our Year 5 children did an amazing job and we look forward to nurturing the new additions over the coming years.



## Reminders

- \* Please DO NOT bring forgotten items to the school office. This creates unnecessary footfall and therefore will not be accepted. We will ensure your child has what they need.
- \* The flu immunisation will now be taking place on Wednesday 11th November (next week).

