

## Cottingham Church of England Primary School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

### November Welcome Back

Welcome back to Autumn 2. I hope that you all managed to have a super break and that the children have recharged their batteries and are ready to return to learning. It would have been preferable to have written this welcome back regarding a 'normal' return to school after a week away. As you all know, it is difficult to get away from the impact that the pandemic is having. That is the case again this week, following the announcement by the Prime Minister over the weekend. The significant difference between March and now is the reluctance to close schools, even in part. This is something that I fully support. The staff and I will continue to do everything that we can to deliver the best possible education to the children attending Cottingham CofE Primary School.

I wrote to you just over a week ago but wanted to drop you a line to welcome everyone back to school tomorrow (Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November). We did have some eager beavers arrive today. Better being early than late! You will know already that we ended the first term with an attendance of approximately 98%. This will be our target once again this term and as always, we should all work together to ensure that the children are able to learn in a safe and happy classroom. Good attendance means that the children are all fit and well. Please do contact me if you need any support or guidance regarding attendance and DO follow the current advice of keeping children off school who display Covid-19 symptoms. Please remember that we are only an email/phone call away.

Following the Prime Ministers latest announcement, nothing has changed in regards to our routine and what is expected from the staff, children and parents/carers. Drop off/collection times will remain the same although we would now ask that you wear a face covering if entering the school grounds. Please do not be offended if a member of staff asks you to do so. Also, when waiting for children at the end of the day, please do NOT allow siblings to play on any outside equipment. Thank you for your understanding and compliance with these requests.

In class, the children will still be reminded of the need to wash and/or sanitise their hands regularly and windows will be opened during the day to allow for air circulation. It would certainly be worth the children wearing an extra layer during the day! Please again be reminded to name clearly, any items of clothing. I am always amazed at how many un-named items of uniform are left at the end of each term. If your child has accidentally took home another child's item of clothing, please return it tomorrow.

British Legion Poppies will be available for the children to buy from their class from tomorrow. We would suggest a minimum donation of 50p for a poppy. Other items are also available and the children will be shown these in due course. We will hold a time for reflection on the 11<sup>th</sup> November and the children will of course be welcome to wear their poppies between now and then.

I really do hope and pray that we all stay healthy this term and work together as the Cottingham CofE Community to support one another. Over the next few weeks we will be sending out further updated and news including arrangements for parent days etc. See you all tomorrow for the start of an exciting term.

Yours faithfully,

Ashley Scott (Headteacher)