



Raeburn Primary School

Morland Avenue

Bromborough

Wirral

CH62 6BD

Tel: 0151 327 2215

Email: schooloffice@raeburn.wirral.sch.uk

Headteacher: Ms J Bushell

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of our Autumn term. It was wonderful last half term, to see some 'safe' levels of normality returning to Raeburn. We were delighted to welcome you back onto our premises so you could meet your children's teachers and see their classrooms. We had very positive feedback on the arrangements we had in place on our Parents Evenings. If you do have any thoughts on these please feel free to drop me a quick email as this system is one we are considering keeping in the future.

Clubs and Events

We have now cautiously started to offer our children a range of sporting events and clubs. I am very pleased to see so many of our fabulous staff actively offering their time to run such clubs. We have seen a return of our choir (who are working towards attending the Young Voices event next year), led by Mrs Coll and Miss C Hutchinson. Our Cross Country fixtures were well attended, with Mr Ashcroft and Miss Johnson attending to coordinate arrangements. SFA and Judo began, alongside Miss Laurence running her gymnastic and cheerleading club. Watch this space as more opportunities are offered for your children as we move forward...

Trips and Visitors

Ensuring we can safely do so, we have started to run some school trips again. This has seen the return of swimming classes for Year 5 and an outdoor learning day for Year 4. Year 2 were visited by a nurse and a soldier! More trips are being planned, including Year 6 visiting Stockport Tunnels, Year 5 visiting the World Museum and we have the Whole School Pantomime planned for December. Staff have also embraced the opportunities that online meetings can offer and many of our children have had interactions with engineers recently this way.

Christmas

We are keen to ensure our children have many chances to develop their learning and that is why we are embracing as many opportunities as we can to enhance our curriculum. We are, however acutely aware of the impact of Covid-19 on our community and constantly risk assessing situations to ensure we do all we can to minimise any unrequired spread of the disease. With this in mind I have reached the following decisions regarding our Christmas arrangements:

Sadly we are unable this year to hold a school PTA Christmas fair- this is a real disappointment to both our enthusiastic and committed PTA and to us as a school who really appreciate the donations from our PTA. The school has felt the impact of not having these over the past couple of years as these donations have helped to purchase so many extras that our budget currently won't stretch to.

Christmas plays/performance- Our Christmas plays will all still go ahead. Children will all have the opportunity to learn Christmas songs, dances and perform. All of the plays/ performances will however be recorded and sent out to parents via our Google platform. After careful consideration I have decided that the risk to our families and staff of potentially spreading Covid in our hall/ church (so close to the Christmas break) where we cannot guarantee adequate standards of ventilation or space, is too great. I believe it would be an unnecessary risk putting together so many adults in this way. It also would not be possible to do more performances with smaller audiences as our children would not cope with this and we also do not have the space to do so.

I want you all to have a wonderful Christmas and would be upset to think of people not being able to spend time with loved ones due to having to self-isolate with Covid, from unnecessary contact. I hope you will all support me in this decision and understand my reasoning.

If your child does not have permission to be filmed/ photographed, their teacher will contact you in the next few weeks to ask if you wish for them to be filmed during their performance.

Panto- We will attend the pantomime in New Brighton. Our school will have a whole section to ourselves. The other people attending the performance will be children from another school. There will be very limited opportunity where children from the schools will have chance to meet.

Christmas Dinner- During the last week of school we will hold our Christmas Dinner at lunchtime for our children.

Christmas Parties- In the last week of term we will also have a Christmas party day. Our younger children (EYFS- Y2) will hopefully be visited by Father Christmas too.

China Visit

The Chinese authorities are currently stating that they will not accept any visitors into their country. Despite having been awarded our Turing Grant for our trip, we are at a standstill and unable to move forward with our booking. I am hopeful that the situation will change and then we can book flights after Christmas. Our reserve date in May is now looking much more likely than the April date. To ensure all of our children are involved in our work with China, our Year 5 and 6 children will have an immersion day in November. There will be a live hook up to our sister school in China and our children will be working with teachers and children from the school.

Thank you for your continued support with our upcoming events and we are very much looking forward to enjoying more of our usual festive activities as we approach December.

Kind regards

Ms Bushell