



Greenfields Federation  
 Littlehaven Infant School and Northolmes Junior School  
 September 2020 Newsletter

*Welcome*

Dear Parents/Carers,

I know we have now been open for a few weeks but I would still like to say formally welcome back! We are absolutely delighted to be fully open and with the way the children have returned and settled.

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new children, families and of course staff. You are joining a lovely supportive school community and I hope you and your child will be very happy at our schools.

I must apologise for the continual stream of information we are sending out but we are trying to keep you informed and as up-to-date as is possible, please make sure that you read the information.

Like all schools, we have had to make lots of changes in order to welcome back all children particularly in terms of logistics. However, we have worked tirelessly since lockdown to minimise the impact on our children and families and I am most grateful to my staff for all their hard work in implementing changes and ensuring that children are happy to be back in school.

COVID or not, the start of the autumn term is all about settling the children in, establishing routines and high expectations for our conduct and learning. Every second really does count for your child's learning and your child may come home feeling a little more tired or grumpy (sorry) than usual as they adjust to the increased expectations of their new school and/or year group.

Although the current restrictions inhibit face to face contact we are still available and here to help. If you have any worries, please do not hesitate in contacting your child's teacher via the school office either by telephone or email and someone will get back to you.

Please don't forget to visit our school websites regularly to find out about the latest news and exciting things that are happening in our schools. Staff will be sharing information about your child's learning through learning platforms such as Google classroom once it is up and running and Tapestry if your child is in reception. At Northolmes the class teachers are also sharing news through their class DoJo App and we will of course continue to share information through Parentmail at Northolmes and e-Schools at Littlehaven.

Mrs Anderson  
 Headteacher

**COVID update**

Although we are at the start of the new term, the cough and cold season is very much with us and probably will only get worse as the weather changes and the children get more tired. The current cold virus doing the rounds is making those who catch it feel quite unwell for a few days. It has some symptoms that are similar to COVID, for example a temperature and cough but the one difference is that children and indeed adults usually have sneezing, a sore throat and a snotty nose which **are not** deemed to be COVID symptoms. The resulting cough and blocked nose affecting smell, appears to be as a result of the build-up of mucus.

Although I know we live in a scary time, it is really important that your child attends school on time and every day unless of course they are poorly.



**CATCH IT. BIN IT. KILL IT.**

Please can I remind parents/carers to wear a mask when on site unless you are medically exempt and please remember the rule of 6 applies at drop off and collection.



You will be very aware of the rapid changes in the government's response to the pandemic and although schools will remain open, we will not be able to if I have no staff! Please play your part in adhering to the latest rules including social distancing on and off the school site. If we do not act

collectively the NHS and schools will be overwhelmed and I am sure no one wants to return to lockdown as it was in March.

Remember hands, face and space!



## Clothing

It's lovely to see all pupils back at school looking smart in their school uniform. Like you, we constantly remind the children, particularly our older ones to take responsibility for their clothing but some children find this easier than others!

Please ensure that all items of clothing are named (first name and surname) so that all items can be returned to their owner. Also it would be very helpful if the school waterproof fleeces and other outdoor coats had a clear and visible means of identification as the children, particularly our younger ones, can get very confused and cannot find their own.

On PE days children at Northolmes are asked to come to school in their PE kits. In line with West Sussex guidance we have a no earring policy for PE.

## Outdoor clothing

In light of schools being encouraged to be outside as much as possible we would like all children to have wellies or a spare pair of old shoes that you don't mind getting muddy in school. Please ensure your child has a named pair of wellies/old shoes in a named carrier bag so that they can be kept more easily in school.



It is more important than ever for your child to have a suitable warm and waterproof coat that will keep them warm and dry in all weathers.

My name is ...



## Has your employment status changed or are you in receipt of any of the benefits below?

Free school meals in all West Sussex schools are available to parents in receipt of the benefits listed below. Although all children at Littlehaven are entitled to a free hot meal we still urge you to apply if you are in receipt of these benefits as it attracts valuable funding for the school and your child.



- ◆ [Universal Credit](#) (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- ◆ [Income Support](#)  
Income-based [Jobseeker's Allowance](#)
- ◆ Income-related [Employment and Support Allowance](#)
- ◆ Support under [Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999](#)
- ◆ The guaranteed element of state [Pension Credit](#)
- ◆ [Child Tax Credit](#) (provided you're not also entitled to [Working Tax Credit](#) and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- ◆ [Working Tax Credit](#) run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

If any of the above apply, your child may be entitled to the pupil premium grant. The grant makes a huge difference to the school's budget and is used by the school to support your child's learning and any additional equipment they may need.

For more information, please either check the West Sussex County Council website:

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

Alternatively you can call or email the school office either at Littlehaven or Northolmes who will be very happy to advise and help.