



Simmondley Primary School

+ Simmondley Primary School, Pennine Road, Simmondley, Glossop, SK13 6NN

✉ enquiries@simmondley.derbyshire.sch.uk ☎ 01457 852721

Friday 25th September

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another lovely week in school and the children have been having a great time learning and playing.

Drop off arrangements are going really well now so thank you everyone for a great team effort. We have been asked about the use of face coverings on our playground. At this time there is no directive from the Department of Education, Public Health England or Derbyshire County Council to implement this but we will keep this under review and let you know if the situation changes. Please remember that we ask that only one adult **must** enter the school site per family and all adults **must** remain 2 metres apart at all times. Please ensure that children remain with their adult **at all times** and leave the playground and move away from the school site **immediately after** collecting their children. Adults **must not** approach Teachers or Teaching Assistants to speak to them. Please contact the school office or use class emails to communicate with us at the present time. Although we are a school that love our four legged friends, **Derbyshire County Council does not allow dogs on their school sites whether on foot or carried by their owner**. Please also communicate this information to anyone who drops off or collects your children.

Thank you for your support and patience in helping us to get all our children in and out and keep everyone safe.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact enquiries@simmondley.derbyshire.sch.uk or use the class emails to contact your child's teacher.

We have sent out login details this week for Google Classroom for Y1 to Y6 children. Please make sure that you have accessed the Simmondley Hub as we will be uploading some homework to it from Monday 5th October. Please contact school if you have any problems. Reception children will continue to use Tapestry.

Having reviewed Homework at our staff meeting last night and in an attempt to ensure consistency across school and to make it manageable for our families, each class will have the following homework each week. Reading, Maths and Spellings. There will be no topic homework at present.

You will no doubt be aware that the government has set out expectations for schools to focus on catch up. Here at Simmondley teachers are assessing children's progress from last year by using Spring data as a starting point, then through daily assessments, in addition to standardised tests in Reading, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation and Maths, that will be delivered before the half term holiday, staff are making decisions about which children will require catch up sessions.

Catch up will be addressed initially through First Quality Teaching and same day interventions (within class fix it time), in addition to small group and 1:1 catch up sessions where necessary. This will be monitored through Pupil Profiling Meetings each half term.

Children in Reception will work and play independently, with a strong emphasis on choice and being able to sustain concentration on projects, these may be child or teacher led. Assessment will play an important part in enabling us to gather a clear picture of where each child is at developmentally. We will observe children to understand their level of achievement, interests and learning styles. We will then shape learning experiences for each child reflecting on those observations.

We are currently in the process of reviewing our Pupil Premium Plans and will share them with those families whose children are in receipt of the Grant.

Please let us know if your circumstances have changed and you meet the following criteria to see if your child may be eligible for Pupil Premium Funding. This is NOT the same as Free Schools Meals in KS1 and generates much needed additional funding for school. Registering for PUPIL PREMIUM can raise an extra £1,345 per pupil for our school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff, access to music and the Arts, residential and after school activities. PLEASE APPLY IF YOU THINK YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE.

1) Is your joint family income under £16,190 per year?

2) If not, are you in receipt of any of the benefits listed below?

- Income Support?
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance?
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance?
- Support from NASS (National Asylum Support Service) under part 6 of the Immigration/ Asylum Act?
- The guarantee element of State Pension Credit?
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190?
- Working Tax Credit run-on?
- Universal Credit?

If you answered yes to either of the above, then please come to us immediately. If you are eligible, rest assured that the information is confidential. We are very discreet- even your child will not know that you have registered – let alone anyone else. Help us to help your child.

Parent Consultations will take place week beginning Monday 19th October. These will be short 5 minute telephone appointments which will focus on how children have reconnected with school and their learning. We will follow up after half term if there are any significant gaps in learning. We will be introducing an online booking system in the next few weeks.

Please note school finishes for the half term on Thursday 22nd October and reopens on Tuesday 3rd November as Friday 23rd October and Monday 2nd November are Staff training days.

Thank you so much for your continued support and kindness. Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Mrs Greaves

Headteacher

Mrs Ellison

Deputy Headteacher