



Simmondley Primary School

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

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

Friday 13th November

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had another wonderful week in school and despite some children having to isolate our whole school attendance has been 98% which is another great achievement by the whole of our community. It was lovely to see the children chosen by the staff enjoying their Hot Chocolate today for 'going above and beyond' and having the most mentions on their Shout Out Boards. We have also seen many of our children keeping our school rules by being Kind, Ready and Safe so thank you.

We would like to draw attention to our Remote Education Contingency Measures, in particular, Scenario F. We have seen our very first week of considerable staff absence and need to remind you of our plan for possible closure of class bubbles due to this.

It is possible that a high number of staff may be absent at once. Whilst the government are relaxing the law regarding minimum class sizes, we will still need to consider the safest practices and practicalities. If high staff absence does become the case, we will do everything we can to remain open, but on the grounds of health and safety, we may have to take the decision to close certain classes (bubbles). This would be a last resort. In this instance, we will aim to provide work on our platforms but (as in Scenario E) the availability of online Google Meets will depend on whether staff are absent due to illness or self-isolation. We hope you can appreciate this is a constantly changing situation and we are doing our best with the resources and funding (which has not been increased) available to us, but this may change some teaching provisions for some children during this period

Reminder - the school car park is for staff use only. Please do not use the car park gate and pedestrian entrance either especially for Sunrise and Sunset Club as staff will be entering and leaving in vehicles during this time. We only use the one-way system at drop off and pick up for the whole school. It is safer for Sunrise and Sunset to use the main pedestrian entrance and blue path alongside the building to enter and exit, as the numbers of adults and children are much lower at this time and so can socially distance.

The time has come for you to apply for a reception place for children born between 1/9/2016 and 31/8/17. You must apply by midnight on Friday 15th January 2021 for a reception place at infant/primary school for September 2021. Full information at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions. Please see our website for our virtual tour and let anyone know who might be interested.

Next week is Anti- Bullying Week. The theme is United Against Bullying and we will be doing a range of activities including Odd Socks day on Monday 16th November.

From the 1st December we will be getting in the Christmas spirit. The children will be able to wear a Christmas jumper to school on a Friday and a Monday if they wish to and there will be a sprinkle of magic happening in and around school during the month. Alongside the whole school Pantomime, we will also be uploading several Christmas songs to Google Classroom and Tapestry for the children to learn. During the last week of the term we will be having an outdoor Christmas Singalong during the school day. We will do our best to ensure that our children experience as many of the usual Christmas activities as we can within the current Covid control measures for schools and will have more news next week.

Pick up and Drop off reminders: One adult only per family who must remain two metres apart from other adults on site. Face coverings must be worn unless exemption applies. Please keep moving, leaving immediately away from the school site. All messages to staff via email/telephone to the office.

Please contact the school office via telephone or email enquiries@simmondley.derbyshire.sch.uk if you wish to pass a message on that a teacher needs to know urgently in the morning.

Only use class emails to communicate with us if it is a general question or concern. If you are using the class email for questions and concerns, staff will respond in line with our policy in that they will acknowledge your concern within 24 hours Monday to Friday within working hours and reply to you as soon as they are able to, that is usually within 2 days. Teachers are not directed to check emails first thing in the morning as they are preparing resources for their class and setting up for the day.

All absences need to be reported through absences@simmondley.derbyshire.sch.uk as these are monitored outside of school hours. Not by leaving a telephone message which we are not able to access off site.

As the weather becomes wetter and colder, please ensure your child has a full set of waterproofs which can be worn over a coat, fleece, warm tights or trousers and a set of wellies in school at all times, hat and gloves. **(Please make sure everything is labelled with your child's name.)**

Thank you once again for your continued support and kindness and a great community effort. Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Mrs Greaves

Mrs Ellison

Headteacher

Deputy Headteacher