



Main Road, Smalley Derbyshire DE7 6EF
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Head teacher – Mrs K Mason

2nd November 2020

Dear Parents,

We are really looking forward to welcoming our children back to school tomorrow to start the second half of the Autumn Term. I know a number of you may be feeling quite anxious following the Government announcements on Saturday as we head towards another National Lockdown. However, I want to reassure you that during our first half term there was no disruption to learning at Richardson Endowed and we feel confident that our Risk Assessment enabled us all to keep as safe as possible.

Having reviewed our systems and procedures at the end of last term we feel they are working well and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support in helping us keep the children and therefore you and your wider families, safe and well.

I would like to remind you however, of a few points from the Risk Assessment that will help us to continue to stay open and provide your child with the best education possible at this time:

- If you or your child have any illness or need to self-isolate, it is very important that you **inform us as soon as possible**. Thank you to those who have done this during the first half term.
- In light of the new lockdown measures we need to remind you not to wait in any groups but to **keep a 2-metre distance from others at all times**.
- As a further precaution we would **actively encourage you to wear a face mask** while accessing, exiting and queuing on the school drive.
- At this time, your child should only bring a reading book and reading record in a reading book bag (no rucksacks please as we do not have the space) and a water bottle. Unfortunately, we are unable to share birthday treats with the class at this time as we are trying to limit transfer of any potential infection, thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Poppies

As I'm sure you are aware, we always support the Royal British Legion each year by selling poppies in school. This year we want to continue to do this but having poppies in and around school is just not possible. Therefore, during this coming week we will give each child a poppy as they leave school at the end of the school day and politely request that you make a donation (if you are able) by popping a coin into the collection box which will be placed on the school drive throughout the week.

Our Year 6 pupils usually lead the community in a service of Remembrance and although we are not able to invite you into school to share in this special event, the Year 6 children will take part in the service in their own 'bubble' and we will share a special post with you on our school website.

We will also share a Remembrance Activity (to do at home) with you on the website, so please look out for this.

Thank you for your empty pop bottles – we still need another 70 to enable every child to make a poppy for our 'Rainbow Tree of Remembrance'. Please place any contributions as soon as possible in the box on the driveway.

Children in Need

Friday 13th November 2020 is Children in Need day – it always creates a buzz in school and is something the children look forward to. As always, our staff have been busy finding creative ways to raise awareness in school. This year we are offering your child the chance to come to school in non-uniform for the day and to give a £1 donation to Children in Need for this privilege.

Again, collection buckets will be placed on the school drive for you to make your donations as we don't want the children bringing coins into school. If your child attends Smalley Childcare you will be able to place your donations into the bucket when your child arrives in the morning. The theme for this year is 'Together' and teachers have planned some lovely well-being activities around this theme.

Thank you

Thank you to you all for supporting school through this difficult time. Back in September I asked for your patience and understanding and this has made all the difference in helping keep everyone in our Smalley community safe and well.

We are really looking forward to welcoming the children back and delivering our exciting new curriculum based around a core text. You will receive a class letter from your child's teacher with information about the curriculum in Autumn Term 2 which will inform you of the learning taking place in school. Please see the school website for our remote learning offer should the need arise for your child to self-isolate.

Thank you, once again for your kind messages of support for our school staff, they are working incredibly hard for your children and give above and beyond every single day so your appreciation means so much.

Please contact me via the school office if you have any concerns at all.

Stay safe and look after your families and our community.

Kind regards,

Mrs K Mason
Headteacher