



# THE HOLY TRINITY NEWSLETTER 25<sup>TH</sup> November

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM:**

We are always mindful of the financial pressures facing families, especially in the current economic climate. With this in mind we have altered our expectations of school uniform over the past year. Below is a quick summary of the main points.

## **DAILY UNIFORM**

Plain red sweatshirt / jumper or cardigan or a branded red sweatshirt (available from Ann's of bacup)

Plain white or red polo shirt or red and white checked "summer" dress

Grey or black trousers / shorts or skirt

Red, white or black wooly tights/leggings or white / grey / black socks

Dark coloured shoes or waterproof black training shoes (brightly coloured or trainers with lots of colours on them should not be worn).

## **P.E. LESSONS AND SPORTS CLUB KIT**

Single-coloured t-shirt (no football shirts)

Single- coloured shorts or dark coloured tracksuit bottoms

Track suit top or other plain warm top – this should be changed into for P.E. lessons. During the rest of the school day, your child should wear their red school sweatshirt / jumper / cardigan.

Training shoes.

Children should come to school in their P.E. kit on days when they have either a P.E. lesson or an after-school sports club.

## **JEWELLERY**

Only small, round stud-type earrings may be worn. Large, dangling or hooped earrings must not be worn on safety grounds. Necklaces and bracelets must not be worn for school. Watches may be worn.

## **PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL**

Please park considerately, and avoid blocking the drive ways of local residents.

The lane leading to the car park should not be used by parents, as a parking or turning area.

Cars should not be parked on double yellow lines, and the ZIG-Zag lines must never be used as a parking or dropping off point.

## **THE SCHOOL WEBSITE AND THE MOBILE APP:**

The Mobile App is the main way that we communicate with you as parents. As far as we know, virtually every parent has the App on their mobile device. If you do not have the App, please come to the school office and you will be shown how to set it up on your phone. The School Website

([www.stacksteads.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.stacksteads.lancs.sch.uk)) also has lots of useful information about what goes on in school.

## **DO WE HAVE YOUR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION?**

If you have recently changed your mobile telephone number or any other aspect of the contact information that we have for your child you has changed, please let the school office know immediately. If your child is ill, or if there is an emergency then we need contact details that are valid.

## **ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY:**

**Did you know that in order to have an attendance rate that is in line with the average for all children in the school, a child cannot have more than 9 days of absence over the course of the entire year? The majority of our children have fewer than this number of days of absence in a full school year, so it is not an impossible target for any child.**

Please do everything that you can to ensure that your child attends school on every day that they are fit and well. One of the ways that poor attendance can sneak up on a parent, is when a child is allowed to

have the odd day off here and there because they feel a bit “under the weather”. This leads to many “broken weeks” which is a very unusual attendance pattern for most children.

If your child is not well enough to be at school, we will always telephone you during the school day. In the vast majority of cases, a child who is feeling less than 100% in the morning is able to successfully stay at school for the rest of day. If you bring Calpol etc to the school office, we are happy to give your child a dose, if they need it for minor symptoms.

If your child is clearly too unwell e.g. with a high temperature, sickness or diarrhoea then, of course, they should remain at home. In the case of sickness and diarrhoea this is for 48 hours after the symptoms stop.

We realise that sometimes a child’s attendance is lower than it usually is due to “bad luck” with illness. If you are the parent of a child in this situation, please be assured that we fully understand this, and will not pursue the matter with you.

**A child who regularly arrives at school just 10 minutes late will miss up to 31 hours of lesson time in a year. This is the same as them being absent for 6 school days. Children hate arriving late for school. Many do not like walking into a classroom when the lesson has already started. Worse still, they may well have missed important learning or instructions about the lesson (and most days it is the same subject that they will be missing out on). Your child must be inside the building by 9.00 a.m., at the latest, to avoid being late and be ready to start the first lesson of the day.**

Persistent lateness is treated in the same way as persistent absence, and can lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued in serious cases. It is the basic responsibility of every parent to ensure that their child arrives for school on time.

#### **OUR SCHOOL PRIORITIES FOR THIS YEAR**

Amongst the many things that we always look to find ways to improve, this year we will be paying particular attention to the following.

1. We will be continuing with ways in which we can support children in catching up lost learning due to the two school years that were disrupted by Covid-19. This includes appointing extra teachers and teaching assistants, offering extra tuition for some pupils and having Catch Up Lessons for groups of children who need it.
2. We will be encouraging all children to enjoy reading for pleasure. The new library was opened by our former governor Oliver Finnegan and is now in full use. The Book Vending Machine has recently arrived. Time will be set aside for “Reading for Pleasure” during the week.
3. During the long periods of Home Learning, many children’s handwriting and presentational skills suffered due to the lack of practice and use of laptops etc. We will be working hard during the year to develop and encourage better handwriting and presentation.
4. We will be expanding and extending the already wide range of After-School Clubs, Cultural and Enrichment activities. There will be increased opportunity for children to attend Sports Clubs, to represent the school in events and to experience valuable activities such as being in the choir. The newly-acquired school minibus is already allowing groups of children to attend more out of school events, both sporting and non-sporting.
5. We will be developing ways of improving the children’s learning, and helping them to remember more of their learning in the longer-term. The ways in which knowledge and skills are taught will be altered to support good learning and memory, time will be allocated each week for children to revise and recap recent learning (Retrieval Lessons) and there will be timetabled lessons at the end of each term to look back and re-visit some of the work done.
6. We have made improvements, in all subjects, to the plans that set out what the children learn during the year. The updated curriculum provides great opportunities for the children to take part in interesting and valuable learning experiences that will help to prepare them for future learning.

#### **PARENT PAY**

Please remember to make regular checks of your Parent Pay account, and to pay for any outstanding items.

