



Barton, Ravensworth, East Cowton and Kirkby Fleetham CE Schools



Dear Parents and Carers

I have so enjoyed catching up with some of the children during the live lessons this week and It has been lovely to see all their work on Teams and photos on Class Dojo. There have been some amazing structures and bridges built in DT, some wonderful artwork, and the English and Maths work submitted is showing that the children are really making progress while learning at home. There were some fabulous pictures from your fun in the snow last week and it's great to see so many children getting out and being active, even in the rain. The Teachers are all super impressed with all the work the children are producing – Well done to everyone!

Skip 2B Fit



Last term we had booked Dave to come in to all our schools next week for our second Skip 2B Fit session of the year. Clearly this can't happen now, so Dave has produced some online sessions that the children will be able to take part in from next week. We have bought a skipping rope with a skip counter for every child in each school so that they can take part in the session. If you live in the village, or are passing during daily exercise, **please could you arrange to come and**

collect a skipping rope for your child on Monday or Tuesday -We will leave them outside the main entrance. If this will be a problem please let us know asap and we will post one to you.

Ultimate Warrior Competitions

Is your child North Yorkshire's Ultimate warrior? All children from Y1-6 have been sent information about the Ultimate Warrior challenge, this includes 4 activities; speed bounce, shuttle runs, star jumps and step ups. There are three age groups; Y1-2, Y3-4 and Y5-6

We will be looking for the ultimate Warriors in each school, as well as over our four schools, and your results will be submitted to the North Yorkshire competition. We will also award marks for those people who have improved the most, so if your child does lots of practice between now and the closing date (19.3.21) they can let us know how their scores have improved. Good luck everyone!

Sumdog

North Yorkshire's latest Sum dog challenge starts today. These challenges are always popular with the children so please do encourage them to take part. Questions are tailored to children's ability and there is a leaderboard that ranks classes in North Yorkshire on the average number of correct answers per player.



Children's Mental Health Week



The week beginning 1st February is Children's Mental Health Week. The theme this year is 'Express Yourself' and we will be planning a variety of different activities throughout the week to encourage children to express themselves creatively through art, music, drama, writing and outdoor activities. This is a really important opportunity to raise awareness of positive mental health and we will be encouraging parents to join in to! We look forward to sharing more details with you next week.

The Go-TO

The Go-To is the home of wellbeing and mental health for young people in North Yorkshire. Their aim is to help you find the right help and support for you, to help you stay well, whatever is going on in your life.

Click [here](#) to view the January edition of the newsletter.



Free School Meal Vouchers

If your child is in receipt of means tested Free school meals you should by now have received your e-code vouchers via e-mail this week. The vouchers have been ordered to cover from this week up to half term. If you have not received your e-mail, please check 'spam' and 'junk' boxes in case they have arrived there instead of your in box. If you have any queries regarding non-receipt of the vouchers, please contact the school office.

Booking Key worker places

Please can we remind all parents that the government state that Key Workers should keep their children at home if they can. This is to prevent the spread of infection and to protect school staff and the children in school. We are proud to be able to support frontline staff and will do our best to accommodate you, but please could we ask that you give as much notice as possible of when your shifts will be. We organise our staffing for the week based on the number and ages of the children in school and admin staff publish rotas for the following week on a Thursday. It is very difficult to accommodate last minute requests, particularly for younger children who require different staffing ratios. We ask that you give us at least 2 days' notice of any change in your childcare booking. Thank you for your support with this.

As you will see from the information above, even though our schools are closed, there is still a lot going on for the children to be involved with. Please remember that we are here to support you with the home learning. Children can't learn if they are feeling overwhelmed, so if it all gets too much, please do let them have a break and come back to it at another time when they are ready, their Teacher will understand. Please just ring school, or contact your child's class Teacher on Class Dojo, if we can do anything to help. I have included a page of contacts and links below that may be helpful at this time.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend,

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H. Dudman'.

Helen Dudman

Useful contacts and links:

SENCO: If your child is struggling and you would like some advice, please contact their class teacher in the first instance, or you can contact Miss Crisp our SENCO on SENCO@dalesmat.org

Keeping Children Safe Online

Whilst children are spending so much time online, we need to make sure we keep them as safe as possible. If you would like some advice on this, please see guidance for parents below:

www.net-aware.org.uk/online-safety-lockdown/

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents>

Well being resources

<http://www.barton.dalesmat.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Guidance-Wellbeing-Online-Resources-2.pdf>

Free School meals

If your circumstances have changed and you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please contact the school office or follow this link: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Dfe mobile phone data offer

<https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/about-increasing-mobile-data>

Education Endowment foundation

The EEF describe themselves as 'an independent charity dedicated to breaking the link between family income and educational achievement.' They carry out in depth educational research and provide advice and guidance for schools. They have published a number of documents to help parents with home learning and these can be found here

https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19_Resources/Resources_for_parents/Summary_of_Resources_-_Parents.pdf

We would particularly like to recommend this plan for **home learning routines** which will help children to get into good habits:

https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19_Resources/Resources_for_parents/Supporting_home_learning_routines_-_Planning_the_day.pdf

and this short video

https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/videos/EEF_Supporting_daily_routines_during_school_closures.mp4