

Mowbray Primary School Stakeford Lane Guide Post Choppington Northumberland NE62 5HQ

Headteacher: Mr Andrew Miller

AM/LH

30 November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Storm Arwen

I hope everyone is ok after the weekend's storm. We are aware that many families had a difficult weekend with power cuts and property damage which has only increased stress levels on top of the pandemic. If you are still experiencing any difficulties and we can help in any way, please do contact us.

You will have no doubt seen that the roof of the old Mowbray First School was blown off onto Stakeford Lane. This was cleared away by Northumberland County Council on Monday. That section of the old building had been used as storage by the Council and is not part of the Day Centre. Unfortunately, the building damage to the section where the roof blew off is severe and it is likely that that section will be demolished in the coming weeks.

Our school building held up relatively well with only a few sections of damaged tiles, a broken window and minor damage to the Forest School cabin.

Coronavirus (Covid-19)

As you are aware, we were advised, as all schools in Northumberland were, to return to a higher level of Covid protocols in school when we returned after half term. At present, these protocols are still in place and with the Omicron variant changing National Guidance it is unlikely our protocols will be relaxed in the near future.

As a reminder of procedures currently in place:

- Do not send your child to school if they display any of the symptoms of Coronavirus
 - High temperature
 - New, continuous cough
 - Change or loss of sense of taste or smell

Please ensure your child isolates and undertakes a PCR test.

• If your child develops symptoms at school, you will be contacted to collect them and arrange for a PCR test.

O1670 823198
Admin@mowbrayprimary.northumberland.sch.uk
* www.mowbrayprimary.northumberland.sch.uk















- If your child tests positive, NHS Test and Trace will be in touch and they will notify close contacts school no longer does this. We will work with Test and Trace to support contact tracing if they contact us for support.
- Notify school of the result of any PCR test so we can assist Test and Trace should they contact us
- We respectfully request that positive results are not shared on Social Media as this can cause great anxiety for many parents.

As Coronavirus is widespread in the community, it is inevitable that cases will occur within school. We would rather a cautious approach be taken if your child has symptoms or if you are unsure of symptoms – please keep your child at home and arrange a PCR test.

We are monitoring cases and if we see increases in positive cases we will take further advice from Public Health.

As the current protocols will not be changing before Christmas, the following is now confirmed:

- Christmas performances will be virtual again this year and posted on Tapestry / Seesaw in the last week of term. Consent forms for this will be issued shortly.
- Family Christmas dinners can not go ahead. A whole school Christmas dinner will happen on Thursday 16 December. Order information will be sent out shortly.
- PTA events (e.g. fair) will be moved to online ordering.
- Family Christmas Crafts afternoon can not go ahead but the children will still do the crafts in their classes.

I know this will be extremely disappointing to you and your children; we are extremely upset by this as well as we would much prefer to have a 'normal' Christmas programme in place. We will keep all Christmas activities in place for the children and will look to add extra activities in so that they still have an enjoyable festive season at school.

Bikes and Scooters

Please remember bikes and scooters can not be ridden on the yard. Please push them in the marked lanes.

Climbing Frame

A reminder that the climbing frame should only be used before / after school if children are under adult supervision. Please avoid using the frame before / after school in wet / icy conditions.

Friday 17 December

A reminder that school closes for the Christmas holidays at 2pm on Friday 17 December. The After School Provision will run as normal until 6pm if required – charges will only be from 3.15pm as normal and will not be increased despite the 2pm finish.

Yours sincerely

A.Miller

Mr A Miller Headteacher

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[⊕] www.mowbrayprimary.northumberland.sch.uk