



'working and growing together'

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Headteacher: Mr Paul Quarry

12th February 2021

Message from Matthew Holland – Chair of Governors

I would like to warmly congratulate Mr Downes on his appointment as Deputy Headteacher of Fitzwilliam Primary School. Mr Downes was another outstanding candidate after a rigorous interview process and his appointment is well deserved. His whole teaching career has been dedicated to the education of the children at Fitzwilliam, and he has risen to the challenge of helping Mr Quarry lead the school since last January. As we move forward Mr Downes will assist Mr Quarry in building on Mrs Harrison's long period of outstanding leadership. I know Mr Downes will continue this work in partnership with Mr Quarry and the Trust keeping the children's education at the heart of the school.

I would again like to take this opportunity to thank the Trust for their assistance in making these appointments quickly ensuring the focus is the education of all children at the school.

Dear Parents / Carers,

We have reached the end of another half-term and I am sure that many of you who have been leading remote learning at home as well as managing your other commitments will see the week ahead as a welcome break from this. Whilst children will still be able to access online learning resources such as Times Tables Rockstars, Numbots and Active Learn over the holidays, if you wish, I hope it will come as welcome news that school will not be setting any additional homework over the holiday period. We are well aware of how challenging this half-term has been, for parents, carers and their children, and appreciate the efforts that everyone at home has gone to in trying to help their children continue learning, even when technology has proven problematic.

We also equally appreciate the efforts of all parents and carers who have continued to follow our policies and procedures if their children have been attending school. It has been a welcome relief to reach the end of the half-term without needing to isolate any bubbles during the six-week period. To all critical workers, we would like to offer our thanks for the jobs you are doing, especially to those of you who have managed to continue doing so whilst keeping children at home with you fully or partially. Thank you.

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

To follow on from the comments from Mr Holland, I wanted to offer congratulations from myself and the rest of the staff team at school to Mr Downes on his appointment to the role of Deputy Headteacher. I know that this will be warmly welcomed by the staff in school but also by parents and carers too. Mr Downes is a hugely respected member of the school team, with staff, parents / carers and pupils alike, and again, someone who has devoted his whole teaching life to Fitzwilliam Primary School. As well as being an exceptional teacher, Mr Downes is a great role model and inspiring leader who will work hard to drive the improvement of school forwards in the future.

We hope the recent appointments offer some reassurance to parents and carers, after a period of uncertainty, that the whole ethos and success of Fitzwilliam Primary School, built up over time by Mrs Harrison, will not be undergoing wholesale changes. Just like Mrs Harrison, who we both owe much to for our own development, we both hold the children right at the very heart of everything we do for school and the community. This will very much continue as we lead school further forwards.



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INSET DAY

Just a reminder that school has an INSET day on Monday 22nd February 2021 and will re-open on Tuesday 23rd February 2021.

NOTIFYING SCHOOL OF SYMPTOMS OVER THE HOLIDAY

During the holidays, should you need to notify school of children (who have been attending school) developing symptoms or needing a test, please e:mail myself at: Pquarry@ipmat.co.uk

Anyone who has been in contact with someone who tests positive would need to isolate and this applies to all those in contact 48 hours before symptoms started or a positive test result is obtained (where no symptoms were shown). **This means that should your child / children develop symptoms on Friday evening, Saturday or Sunday, a test should be arranged and school notified as soon as possible as it would result in the class bubble needing to isolate for ten days.** Where symptoms begin from Monday onwards, whilst you still should inform school, it would not result in the isolation of the class bubble.

MRS UPSON

Everyone in school is sad to see Mrs Upson leaving us today. Although she has only been with school for a short time, she has been a great asset to school and helped us to get through one of the most difficult periods of time school has experienced. It is testament to the job she has done, that her hard work and ability has been noticed within the MAT and an opportunity has arisen to allow her to experience a new challenge. All at school wish Mrs Upson well in her new role and Fitzwilliam's loss is definitely another school's gain. Good luck and thank you Mrs Upson – we know you will do a fantastic job! We will keep you updated with other staffing changes in due course.

SAFER INTERNET DAY TUESDAY 9th FEBRUARY

There was some fantastic work in school this week on Safer Internet Day, but also throughout the week, about keeping safe when online. Please take a look on Twitter to see some of this for yourself: @IPMATFitz

I include the link again below should you wish to explore this yourself, as well as a link to the NSPCC information about Online Safety. Now, more than ever, it is important to know how to keep your children safe online due to the increased time children, and adults, are spending on devices and consoles.

[Safer Internet Day 2021 | Safer Internet Centre](#)

[Online safety | NSPCC](#)

FSM VOUCHERS

FSM vouchers are not issued in the same way over the holiday period but will resume the week beginning 22nd February. Over the holidays, the local council will provide these in the same way they did over the holidays so please check your e:mails for these – if you are eligible, you will receive an e:mail regarding this support.

SAFEGUARDING

Please be aware of how long children spend on devices during the holidays and monitor their use.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/need-help>

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/primary/>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

<https://www.papyrus-uk.org/>

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/tiktok/>

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WAKEFIELD FAMILIES TOGETHER

Below is the Wakefield Families Together list of support services should you need them over the holidays:



#WakefieldCares -
children and families -

ICON

Unfortunately, Wakefield has experienced recent baby deaths here in the district as a result of overlay, unsafe sleeping and shaken babies. The ICON program can help to prevent this with the support it provides:

- I – Infant crying is normal;
- C – Comforting methods can help;
- O – It's OK to walk away;
- N – Never, ever shake a baby

[Wakefield safeguarding children partnership \(wakefieldscp.org.uk\)](http://wakefieldscp.org.uk) – info for staff and parents, including the safer sleeping standard information.

[The Lullaby Trust - Safer sleep for babies, Support for families](#) – info for staff and parents.

Other useful links:

<https://parentinfo.org> - resources and guidance for parents on a wealth of subjects

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/> - guidance about popular apps, games and networks children may be accessing

<https://www.starwakefield.org.uk/> - resources and support to help deal with bereavement

<https://www.camhs-resources.co.uk/> - resources to help with mental health and wellbeing

<https://youngminds.org.uk/> - Young Minds

<https://wf-i-can.co.uk/> - Online resources for children and young people in Wakefield with mental health and wellbeing

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/> - NSPCC

<https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk/> - website for safer sleep for babies

www.iconcope.org – website offering support around normal infant crying and how to cope / manage this

Useful Numbers

YOUNG MINDS PARENTS HELPLINE: 0808 8025544

CHILD LINE - Help for adults concerned about a child call us on 0808 800 5000

CHILD LINE - Help for children and young people call Childline on 0800 1111

NHS - For urgent medical help – use the NHS 111 online service, or call 111 if you're unable to get help online.

NHS - For life-threatening emergencies – call 999 for an ambulance.

POLICE – 101 for non-emergencies or 999 in an emergency

REFUGE – Call 0808 2000 247 for support from the National Domestic Abuse Helpline

NORMANTON FOOD BANK - 01924 895634 or 07307 189851

Thank you again for all of your support during this challenging half-term, please enjoy a break from home learning and we look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday February 23rd.

Paul Quarry
(Headteacher)



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COVID19 Symptoms At Home Flow Chart

