 **Hassell Primary Weekly Update 18.9.2020**

This week the children have been busy in their classes, getting to grips with their new topics and working hard. There have been a couple of reminders for this week and small changes to update everyone on which I have included below.

**Inset Day**

A reminder that Monday 21st September is an inset day for school staff to continue with our Read, Write, Inc, phonics training. Unfortunately the original date had to be cancelled due to covid-19 closures and this is the replacement. Read Write Inc is the phonics scheme that we are using within school to teach the children effective early reading skills. The children should come back to school on Tuesday 22nd September.

**School Day Timings**

Now that we are getting back into the swing of things, I would like to ask that all children arrive by 8.55 instead of 9am. We have monitored the volume of people on the playground and found that we have a large gap at the end of the entry time. Moving to 8.55 should not cause any increased problems with social distancing, but will allow us to start our lessons promptly at 9.00am. The black gates will now close at 8.55. The timings at the end of the day will not change.

**KS2 Toast Orders**

Please can we remind KS2 children who wish to order toast, to bring their £1 or £2 on a Monday (Tuesday next week) to order toast for the rest of the week.

**School Lunches**

We are trialling a new process for children to order their school hot meals. All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free hot meal which is paid for by the Government. All other children can order hot meals and pay for them via parent pay. A link has been sent out via text for you to order your child’s hot meals for the week. Dinners can be taken on any day so a mix of home packed lunches and hot dinners can be chosen. You **do not** need to fill this in if your child only has a packed lunch. Children in KS2 entitled to free meals also need to make their choices via the form. We politely ask that the form is completed by 8am on Monday morning to ensure the children’s orders are all included. Thank you.

If your child chooses to bring a packed lunch from home, please can we encourage them to make healthy choices. In school we teach the children that it is ok to have treats as long as it is in moderation. They do not need to have several items of chocolate, sweets, cake or sugary foods and drinks as part of their meals. We often find that too much sugar makes it hard for the children to concentrate in the afternoons and can impact on their learning. Please find below some links to lunch box ideas that might be of help.

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/school-packed-lunch-inspiration>

**Water bottles**

We encourage all children to bring a waterbottle to school so that they can remain hydrated throughout the day. We have had a small number of children bringing bottles containing juice rather than water. Please can I remind everyone that juice is not allowed in water bottles within classes. I know many children will not drink plain water at home, but in school it is the norm and the children are really good about filling their bottles with water. We really appreciate your support in this matter. If there is an issue that we are not aware of which means your child cannot have water, please contact me to discuss it further.

**Year 3/4 Trip to Standon Bowers**

As you are aware, the current government guidance says we are not allowed to go on any overnight trips with the children from school. We are currently trying to get a full refund for anyone who has paid the deposit for the Year 3/4 trip to Standon Bowers. As soon as it is available the refund will be paid back to parent pay accounts. Thank you for your patience in this matter.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions.

Kind Regards

Kirsty Broome

Headteacher