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Warwick Bridge Primary School Newsletter No 20 12th February 2021

Footballs for Fitness

We hope that each child in school likes their football and is looking forward to carrying out the exercises and tasks that are going to be set by staff over the next few weeks. Staff and pupils alike have been saying how much they enjoyed seeing one another after such a long time away from school. All the football deliveries were carried out with staff following social distancing guidelines, but it is largely felt that the activity helped to bring the whole school closer together during what has been a difficult time for many. With the coverage by Border News, the Cumberland News and BBC Radio Cumbria, the event has been a piece of good news during what has generally been rather trying times for the country as a whole. Thank you to all those parents and carers who have written very pleasing emails to school thanking WBS for the gift of the football and helping to bring us all closer together at this time.

Return to School

Much has been said and written about the return to school after this present lockdown. We are still unsure as to when WBS will be fully open again after lockdown. The Prime Minister has suggested phased returns to schooling from 8th March. The Local Authority and Cumbrian schools will be guided by the DfE and national government in this respect and will let all parents and carers know when we will be opening our doors to all pupils again. From Monday February 22nd the school will be open 9am-3pm from Monday to Friday for the children of Key Workers and any pupils considered vulnerable. As has been stated in previous newsletters, the best place for all pupils at the moment is at home as per government guidance. Children should only come to school if you are in one of the groups already mentioned and if there are no alternative arrangements that you can make for childcare. Thank you for your cooperation in this.

School Video

As with previous lockdowns, WBS is always keen to keep connecting with the whole school community. We are going to produce a school video which has clips of staff and pupils using the football that you received this week. Full details will be sent out on Class Dojo by teachers. We are looking for a brief film clip – no longer that five seconds – of the children playing with their football in any way they choose. Please film this in landscape and send it to Mr Walsh at <u>swalsh@warwickbridge.cumbria.sch.uk</u>. He will then edit the films and put them in to one long montage. Look out for further instructions on Class Dojo. Good luck and get creative!

Remote Learning

Your child should be able to access live learning and activities with their teachers and TA staff. We realise that learning at home is not ideal for everyone. Please ensure, however, that your child is on time for their 1:1 lesson or class session with the school staff member. If you are having difficulties in joining the lessons, contact the class teacher as soon as possible via Class Dojo or email. Parents and carers are quite often juggling their own work from home along with the support of the children's work. This is indeed a difficult time and we thank you for all your efforts. Similarly, staff are working from home setting the work and delivering live sessions. They are also coming in to school to teach in the Bubble and for staff who have their own children to educate, the pressure to ensure that all these areas can be successfully supported is immense. Home Learning will be continuing after half term for at least two weeks.

Help for Families

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected people in lots of ways, and whilst Cumbrian communities have been fantastic at supporting each other, many people are finding they need a bit of extra help and support. These webpages provide information about support available to people in Cumbria, online and on the phone. <u>https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/welfare/default.asp</u> The message is 'Don't wait for problems to get worse, there are organisations that can help, and it's better to get advice sooner rather than later'. Cumbria County Council can provide urgent help and emergency support, including basic food and essential items, or if you (or someone you know) are struggling to cope with your current situation for whatever reason. Support Helpline - 0800 783 1966 (Monday to Thursday 9am to 5pm, Friday 9am to 4.30pm).

Emails to COVID19support@cumbria.gov.uk will receive a response within one working day.

WBS - Working, Believing, Succeeding – A Wonderful Bridge to Success

Support for Children & Young People

If you are a young person who needs some support or you are working with a young person who needs some support here are some organisations you can contact:

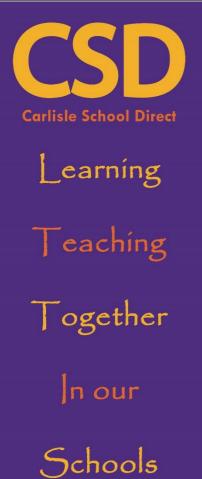
- **KOOTH** is an online counselling and emotional well-being service for children and young people, available free at the point of access. Chat and forums it's safe and anonymous.
- Young Minds is a charity providing online advice and support for children, young people, parents and professionals.
- **Papyrus UK** Charity for the prevention of young suicide hopefully they can provide support for parents in dealing with the young person's self-harming and suicidal behaviour and ways.

Click on the links to visit these homepages

Support for Parents, Carers & Families

MyTime are offering information sessions for parents and carers giving informal practical advice and ideas that can help support the mental health of them and their child through the pandemic. For session times and sign up information please click <u>here</u>.

Teacher Training Information – Carlisle School Direct



Are you interested in becoming a Primary Teacher?

Carlisle School Direct is a great way to "learn to teach by teaching".

The Carlisle School Direct Primary PGCE is an Initial Teacher Education (ITE) programme. We work in partnership with the University of Cumbria and local schools to provide an "in context" learning experience.

We are looking to recruit enthusiastic graduates who want to teach.

If you are interested in finding out more about our School Direct route into Primary teaching contact: Jacqui Percival - JPSchoolDirect@stanwix.cumbria.sch.uk



www. stanwix. cumbria. sch.uk

Have a wonderful half-term break with your family. Schooling begins again on Monday 22nd February.

With all best wishes

Mr M Ashton