

22nd January 2021 Newsletter Spring 1

Dear Parents,

We hope this newsletter finds you well as we enter the third week of national lockdown restrictions. We would like to congratulate you on all the fantastic things you are doing at home, the staff in school are all enjoying looking at the children's amazing work that has been uploaded to Tapestry and Google Classroom. It is wonderful to see how much fun the children are having and how happy they look, so a huge well done, as we understand how much pressure many of you are under trying to juggle work commitments and remote learning.

Electronic devices and internet access

If any parents are struggling to access an electronic device to support their child with remote learning then please contact the school office and we can provide one temporarily. We are also able to source fixed broadband routers and we can put in a request for more data to be provided via mobile phone network providers if you need it for internet access. Please let us know if you need us to request that for you.

Music Partnership North's ensembles are now online!

Music and the arts are a fantastic way of coming together, even online, and after the success of last term the Music Partnership are now arranging the next two terms activities for the ensembles. If you would like your child to be involved in one of the ensembles below, please watch the <u>video</u> and get in touch. <u>The Northumbrian Ranters</u> – fiddle, flute, Northumbrian Pipes, cello, harp, accordion, percussion, concertina, guitar and keyboard play traditional/folk music

Northumberland Youth Ensemble – suitable for strings, brass, woodwind, or percussion. **Hoolies** - for singers/vocalists of all ages and abilities.

Young Pipers Group – any Northumbrian small pipe player is welcome to join and play traditional tunes and have fun.

Bedlington Community and Youth Brass Band – Students or adults playing cornet, flugelhorn, tenor horn, baritone, euphonium, trombone, or tuba are welcome to join this group and make music together. (*FREE* to children, as subsidised by The Bedlington Community Band) If you would like further information, please get in touch with school.

COVID LFT (Lateral Flow Testing) for Tritlington staff

We wanted to update you on a development in the government's response to the COVID 19 pandemic and highlight possible implications for your family in coming weeks. Up to one in three people who have the virus have it without symptoms (they are asymptomatic) so could be spreading the disease unknowingly. Therefore, from Monday 25th January the Department of Education are introducing asymptomatic testing for all staff working in schools. Any staff who receive a positive result will be required to self isolate. This means the bubble which they are part of will close for a ten-day period. This will obviously have implications for every family, as you will need to have short-notice childcare options in place. We understand that this is yet another complication but we sincerely hope that this development will help identify positive cases more quickly and break the chains of transmission. As always if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to get in contact with us.

We would like to thank you for your ongoing support keeping our Tritlington community safe.

Many thanks,

Mrs. K. Stephenson & Mrs. J. O'Dell - Joint Acting Headteachers