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| **Dear Parents,**  Welcome to a proper newsletter- the first for quite a while. Although all of our lives continue to be significantly affected by coronavirus, there are some other exciting developments to tell you about both in school and out. | |
| **It’s a girl!**  I’m delighted to be able to tell you that Mrs Whitfield had a baby girl on June 18th. Hannah Louise Whitfield weighed in at just 5 lbs and 13oz. Mother and daughter are both doing well. | |
| **Staffing update**  I am also delighted to be able to tell you that we have appointed an additional teacher for September. After a very competitive selection process (with 45 applications for the post), Miss Amy Harris will be joining us to teach in KS2. I know she is really looking forward to getting to know the children and to meeting you all- and she will be a fantastic addition to our teaching team. This means that Mrs Graham and I will be sharing the teaching in Class 2 .  Classes for September will be:  Class 1: Mrs Stevens, Mrs Briddock and Mrs Morgan  Class 2: Mrs Graham (M-W) and Mrs Trotter (Th/F) with Mrs Hodgson.  Class 3: Miss Harris  Class 4: Mr Chapman/ Mrs Hall.  I know that you will also be pleased to hear that Mrs Bridges is continuing to make a steady recovery and hopes to be back with us soon. | |
| **Transition meetings**  We are planning to set up some virtual transition meetings so that all of the children can ‘meet’ their new teachers and also see their classmates.  When we have finalised the technical details and a timetable, we will send you a link and some instructions on how to log on. Each year group will have their own time slot- rather than a whole class trying to log on at once. I’m not sure how well this will work- but we will give it a try.  I am also mindful of those children who are leaving us and how we can say goodbye properly. I’ll let you the details when a plan is finalised. | |
| **Planning for September**  We are all hoping that the children will all be back in school in September and the Government have made a commitment to this. We don’t yet have any details from the Department for Education on what social distancing measures are likely to be in place- if any- but guidance is expected soon. This means that we can’t yet be certain that all children will be in school full-time- but we very much hope that they are. The Government have also pledged a considerable sum of money to supporting children catch up. This has been calculated to be about £80 per child. Again, we are waiting for the detail on how this will be allocated and what exactly it can be spent on.  We have, however, begun planning for September as a staff team. We are thinking about and discussing the critical areas of the curriculum to cover in the first days and weeks back in school and how to settle the children back into school after such a prolonged period of absence. We are also discussing where to target the additional funding which we may get and how to make the best use of it. Staff are putting together their plans for closing any gaps in learning which there may be and everyone is determined to do their very best for the children- as always. | |
| **Annual Reports**  You will be receiving an annual report before the end of term which will be an outline of your child’s behaviour, attitudes to learning and significant achievements during the first 2 terms of this academic year- unless your child has been in school since 23rd March.  If you would like to discuss this with your child’s class teacher, please email [admin@newbrough.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newbrough.northumberland.sch.uk) and your child’s class teacher will phone you at a mutually convenient time. | |
| **Dates for your diary** | |
| **Friday 10th July** | **Reports home** |
| **Tuesday 1st September** | **Teacher training day** |
| **Wednesday 2nd September** | **Children back in school (hopefully)** |
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