

# MOORTHORPE NEWS - FEB 2021

What a long month January is - this year more than ever! So since my rather optimistic January newsletter we have been locked down. Yet again we all face the challenge of working together as a community to ensure our children are supported through this in the best way we can.

As you know we remain open for vulnerable children and those of critical workers. On most days we have around 70 pupils in school, which is about 28%. This is roughly in line with the Wakefield primary school average of 25%.

Yesterday's announcement that the return to school for all pupils will not be until at least 8<sup>th</sup> March gives us some clarity and helps us plan for the next few weeks.

## COVID-19 PANDEMIC

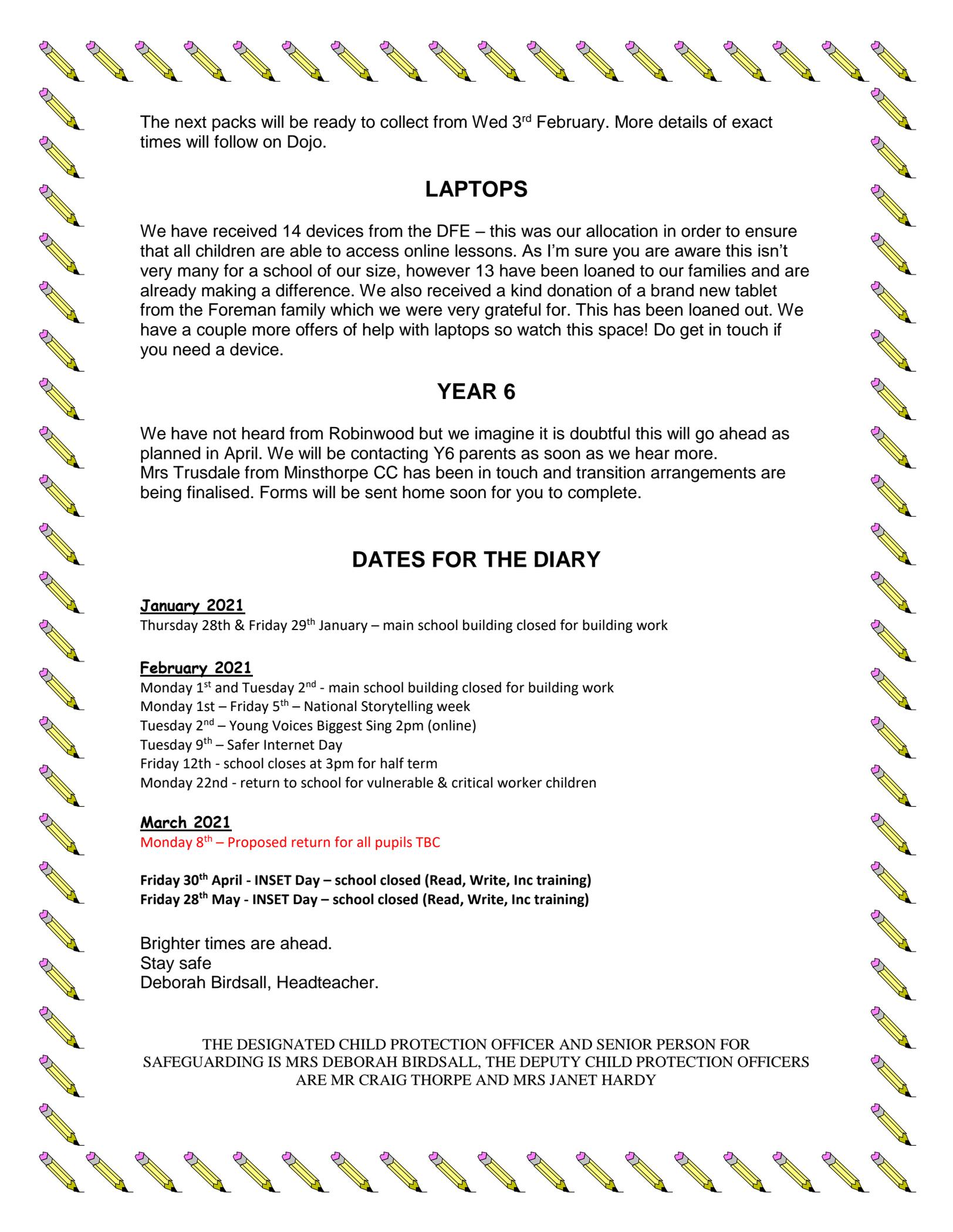
I'm pleased to report we have not had any cases in staff or pupils as yet this term. Staff have begun twice weekly Lateral Flow testing. This may mean despite showing no symptoms, some of us could receive a positive test on a Wednesday or Sunday evening. If this was the case I may need to contact some parents to close a 'bubble' at short notice or inform some 'close contacts'. If the staff member then went for a PCR test and subsequently received a negative test, staff close contacts and pupils would then be able to return to school. Please keep an eye on Dojo, especially at these times.

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Those families who are entitled to FSM (benefits related) should check their emails. You should receive these from a company called 'Edenred.'

## REMOTE LEARNING

We are offering a 'Blended-Learning' approach. This is a style of education in which pupils learn via electronic and online media as well as traditional face-to-face teaching (for those who are in school) plus some pre-recorded videos from the teachers in school. We are also doing our best to make weekly phone calls home to support you and your child(ren). The vast majority of families are engaging well with the work and we have been delighted by the feedback we have received about the timetable of links for the Oak Academy lessons. Unlike the first lockdown, there is an expectation KS2 pupils will spend 4 hours a day on learning and 3 hours for our younger children. In addition the government require schools to ensure we see the work that is being completed so that teachers can give feedback. We understand every family circumstance is different, some of you are juggling work, home learning and maybe have younger children/babies so are feeling the pressure. You are not teachers and have not be trained to do this. Be kind to yourselves and celebrate the great work that you are doing. Your wellbeing and that of your child(ren) is always the priority. If things are getting difficult please get in touch. As well as your child's teacher, Mrs Hardy and Mrs Grace are on hand to support, advise and encourage. This may be a phone call, a socially distanced meeting in school or a doorstep visit.



The next packs will be ready to collect from Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> February. More details of exact times will follow on Dojo.

## LAPTOPS

We have received 14 devices from the DFE – this was our allocation in order to ensure that all children are able to access online lessons. As I'm sure you are aware this isn't very many for a school of our size, however 13 have been loaned to our families and are already making a difference. We also received a kind donation of a brand new tablet from the Foreman family which we were very grateful for. This has been loaned out. We have a couple more offers of help with laptops so watch this space! Do get in touch if you need a device.

## YEAR 6

We have not heard from Robinwood but we imagine it is doubtful this will go ahead as planned in April. We will be contacting Y6 parents as soon as we hear more. Mrs Trusdale from Minsthorpe CC has been in touch and transition arrangements are being finalised. Forms will be sent home soon for you to complete.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### January 2021

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> & Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January – main school building closed for building work

### February 2021

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> - main school building closed for building work

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> – National Storytelling week

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Young Voices Biggest Sing 2pm (online)

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> – Safer Internet Day

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> - school closes at 3pm for half term

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> - return to school for vulnerable & critical worker children

### March 2021

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> – Proposed return for all pupils TBC

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April - INSET Day – school closed (Read, Write, Inc training)

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May - INSET Day – school closed (Read, Write, Inc training)

Brighter times are ahead.

Stay safe

Deborah Birdsall, Headteacher.

THE DESIGNATED CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER AND SENIOR PERSON FOR SAFEGUARDING IS MRS DEBORAH BIRDSALL, THE DEPUTY CHILD PROTECTION OFFICERS ARE MR CRAIG THORPE AND MRS JANET HARDY

## PARENT/CARER SURVEY

December 2020 (85 responses)	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Q1: My child likes school and feels safe and happy.	64.5%	35.5%	0%	0%
Q2: As a parent/carer I feel welcome around school. The staff are friendly and approachable.	65.8%	34.2%	0%	0%
Q3: The school actively engages with parents, such as through Newsletters and Class Dojo and keeps them well informed of activities and events.	64.5%	31.6%	3.9%	0%
Q4: I am happy with the Covid measures that have been put in place at school.	68.4%	27.6%	3.9%	0%
Q5: My child knows they can turn to an adult for help should they need it.	64.5%	32.9%	2.6%	0%
Q6: When I have raised concerns with the school they have dealt with them properly.	56.8%	40.5%	2.7%	0%
Q7: My child enjoys their learning and school.	62.2%	37.8%	0%	0%
Q8: The school has high expectations and encourages my child to work to their best ability.	59.2%	35.5%	5.3%	0%
Q9: I am well informed of the progress my child is making in school through parent's evening/reports.	53.9%	43.4%	2.7%	0%
Q10: The school values good attendance and punctuality.	67.1%	32.9%	0%	0%
Q11: The children are well behaved in school and there are high expectations of pupil behaviour.	48.7%	47.4%	2.6%	1.3%
Q12: The school provides a rich curriculum and my child is learning new skills and knowledge.	61.8%	36.8%	1.4%	0%
Q13: The school is well led and managed.	67.1%	31.6%	1.3%	0%
Q14: The school promotes a love of reading and my child is keen to read.	64.5%	34.2%	1.3%	0%
Q16: If yes, how strongly they agree with this statement: 'My child has SEND, and school gives them the support they need to succeed.'	38.9%	61.1%	0%	0%

Very pleasing results indeed. We welcome your feedback as always and strive to continually improve. You can leave your feedback at any time on the Ofsted Parent view: [Welcome to Ofsted Parent View | Ofsted Parent View](#)