

21.10.21

Dear Parents and Carers

Message from Mrs Rawlins – 21.10.21

I think we should all feel quite proud of ourselves for keeping going until half-term – the children are definitely tired, and I have a feeling that staff, parents and carers are all experiencing that very same feeling! Tomorrow (22nd October) is our last day of the half-term, school is closed for the holiday all week, and also on Monday 1st November (when teachers have a training day). Children are back in school on **Tuesday 2nd November**.

Quite a few bits of information from me this week:

Foodbank donations: A huge thank you for all of the generous donations you have sent in. We will get them off to the local Foodbank, and we know each item will be very much appreciated.

Wear Red Day (Show Racism the Red Card): Tomorrow, we hope that lots of children may wish to wear something red to school, as we support the 'Show Racism the Red Card' campaign. In my video assembly tomorrow, we will be thinking about this statement and what it means for us: 'At Arbury we say NO to racism, but YES to kindness.'

eSafety reminder: We know that children are often using websites and apps independently, as well as internet searching. In school, we are protected by a heavy firewall, but at home, it can be tricky to protect children from inappropriate content. This link ([eSafety information - Arbury Primary School](#)) will take you to a page on our website, where there are a range of resources to support you in ensuring that children are accessing age-appropriate content online. You may find these links also useful:

- How to put age controls on Netflix - <https://www.radiotimes.com/technology/netflix-parental-controls-pin-protected-profiles/>
- Age ratings for games and apps - <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

Flu vaccinations: We are expecting flu vaccinations to take place in school on Wednesday 3rd November for those children who have been signed up by their parent or carer.

Reading newsletter: Mrs Dowdall has compiled a reading newsletter for this half-term, which is attached (and also on the school website in the letters section). There are lots of good ideas for new books to read, as well as interviews with Mr Taylor and Mrs MacDonald about what they are like as readers!

Parent/carers consultations: This term, we will again be holding consultations on Zoom. A letter was emailed yesterday with information about how to book (please note that booking opens on Tuesday 2nd November).

School lunch menu: We have new lunch menus starting from after half-term. I have attached them for your information, but they are also on the school website.

A bit of opera for children: On Monday, English Touring Opera are releasing a brand-new digital opera *Aidan* aimed at Key Stage 2 children and above. It is based on an opera by Handel called *Amadigi*. They say this: 'We have made it into a fast paced, multimedia opera with animation and clever trickery using green screen technology. We think it's an accessible and fun way for kids to be introduced to opera.' I have attached their flyer which gives the details and a link to sign up.

Half-term events: There are lots of free events going on during half-term – please see the school Facebook page for more information, as Mrs Schwarz has been busy adding any publicity we have received straight to that page.

Lost property and lots of jumpers: Mrs Whiting and I will make sure that any lost property / jumpers / coats etc will be put out into the KS1/KS2 playgrounds on Friday at home time, so please do check if you think your child is missing some clothing.

Well, it just remains for me to wish you all a good half-term. The children are really ready for a break! Can I also just thank each of you for your continued support each day, as we all try to keep school a safe and happy place for our lovely children. We look forward to seeing all of our families on Tuesday 2nd November!

Best wishes

Diane Rawlins
Deputy Headteacher

