

## **Headteacher's Blog September (2) 2020**

### **Staffing**

I am delighted for Miss Foster that she has secured a full-time, maternity leave teaching position at Belford Primary. I am also sad that she will be leaving us the week before October half-term. It's great that our school is involved in training primary teachers through our Post Graduate programme with Carmel College, it's just a shame we can't keep all of the excellent teachers we train.

Mrs Dodds will take on the full-time teaching role in Earth Works until Mrs Stapleton returns from her maternity leave in December.

Sabrina Dodds (who previously worked for us as an HLTA/TA) is our teacher training student this year. She is currently working with Mrs Williams in the Space Base class. To avoid confusion, the pupils call her Miss Dodds.

### **Illness**

We currently have a considerable number of pupils throughout school who have colds. Thank you so much for our sensible parents, who have erred on the side of caution and kept their child/children off when they were unsure of symptoms, or wanted to see if anything got worse. A runny nose is not a commonly recognised symptom, but this is a challenging time for us all to work out what to do. Pupils with colds can attend and will be reminded to 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it!' However, we too will be cautious and request pupils be collected from school if we feel it would be safest. It is, therefore, vital that we can contact you at all times, so please give us an up-to-date 1<sup>st</sup> contact's details. (See consent form sent home tonight.)

My priority is the safety and health of our precious school community and wider family members. There is updated guidance on the Covid-19 section of the school website. I will keep adding to this and updating the risk assessments.

Be reassured, we have got off to an excellent start to the term and it is a delight to have our happy, engaged pupils back with us. Covid-19 cases in rural Northumberland continue to be very low. We will continue to follow all Government, LA and Diocesan advice.

Kindest regards,

Diane Lakey