

Friday 24th April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the Summer term and our new way of schooling. I hope you are all well and managing to stay safe during the lock down.

We now know that schools will remain closed until at least Friday 8th May so we'll be carrying on with the current arrangements until then but we will update you straight away if we receive any additional updates between now and then.

Fortunately all the teachers and staff at school are well and have enjoyed coming in to work with our key worker children. When they are working at home they are planning the daily lessons and also completing a number of additional tasks such as on line training and long term planning. Our school business manager and office staff are still busy working, preparing budgets and maintaining the schools systems. The school continues to be cleaned every day with a focus on the areas that are used daily and Mr Kalisz, our site manager, is in everyday making sure the whole site continues to be well maintained. Mrs Robertson, our Inclusion and Wellbeing Lead, is also working with some of our families on a daily basis and is there for help and advice if you need it. Mrs Martin, our SENDCO, is busy working with families and children. If you need any help at all please email the office or phone during normal school hours and we will do our best to help you. I am in most days and in regular contact with Milton Keynes and the ODBST through virtual conferencing. For many parts of the school it's business as usual!

We have decided to keep supplying work for the children in the same way as this has proved mostly positive and effective in supporting you and your children. Thank you for all the feedback we have received. It is always useful to gather your views as they help us to formulate our plans going forward.

There have been a number of really good web sites created to help families with home schooling that are freely available. In my opinion the best one is the BBC Bitesize which is offering a whole range of learning opportunities that are fun and accessible. We have also been making use of different resources and I know the Maths tutorials have been very successful with some of you.

Below is the timetable we are using with our Key Worker children, it is of course completely optional if you want to follow it or not:

9.00-9.30 Joe Wicks PE sessions
9.30-10.00 Assembly (on the school website)
10.00-10.45 Home School Tasks set by teachers on website
10.45-11.00 Break Time
11.00-12.00 Home School Tasks set by teachers on website
12.00-1.00 Lunchtime
1.00-2.00 Work on project of the week
2.00-3.00 Afternoon themed activities
3.00-3.15 Story Time
3.15 Hometime

Afternoon Activities

Week commencing Monday 27.4.20 – Project – “Super Sports Stars”

Monday - Yoga

Tuesday - Music

Wednesday - Art (paint/draw field flowers or bunch of flowers)

Thursday - Film Club

Friday - Cooking Pizzas

Afternoon Activities

Week commencing Monday 4.5.20 – Project – “Dear Future Me”

Monday - Film Club

Tuesday - Music

Wednesday - Art (making paper flowers and leaving them for a key worker)

Thursday - Circus skills

Friday - Cooking a celebration cake

Don't forget you can interpret the projects however you like and present it in whatever form you would like to. We love receiving pictures of your children at home school and completing the different activities so please do keep sending them into us and we will add them to the website.

All schools have recently been contacted by the DfE and asked to share some advice about continuing to use the NHS for normal services, so I am copying this for you below:

Message to parents on using health services during COVID

Please remember, A&E services and your GP practice are still open during the coronavirus outbreak. GP surgeries are not allowing patients to directly book face to face appointments at the moment, to help stop the spread of the virus. They are, however, more than happy to discuss your case over the phone and to offer advice and guidance. In some cases they may be able to consult by video link, using mobile phones. If clinically appropriate, they can invite you to attend the surgery for an appointment at an arranged time.

It is really important to stay well at this difficult time, so please contact your GP surgery if your child is poorly with any symptoms that cause you concern. With so much attention on coronavirus at the moment, we are aware you may be concerned your child has a different illness or may be living with a worrying condition like asthma or diabetes.

So, if you are worried, please call your surgery to arrange a telephone consultation, or you can use the NHS app to book a call-back if you are 16 or over. This parent information form, produced by Barts Health and North-East London STP, gives very useful advice on when to use services like GPs, pharmacists, A&E and 999.

All your health service staff are still there for you, even though they are having to do things a little differently.

Please don't be afraid to use them if you are concerned about your child's health.

All the teachers have posted some personal messages to their classes which can be found on the website, so if you have time please go ahead and watch them. They really are missing your children.

Take care everyone and see you soon,

Yours sincerely,

Lorraine Quirk