



Holywell Primary School

Tolpits Lane, Watford, Herts, WD18 6LL
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Headteacher: Mr Coert van Straaten MA, Ed, Dip Edu, NPQH
we are a learning community with the spirit to succeed

Friday 3rd April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Week 2 of School Closure

Week 2 of the school closure has flown by with a lot of work being done by teachers to finish off the Spring term and to get ready for the Summer term. Teachers this week have been getting used to taking part in on-line meetings, and where it was tricky at the beginning of the week, they are all now experts. We have been looking at setting work for the Summer term and how we will continue to try and meet pupils needs on-line or in class, whatever the situation after the Easter break.

We have been discussing how children can submit work to us after the Easter holiday and how we can give feedback on the work. Many parents have been sending in photographs, emailed work and comments to their teachers. We will collect all work completed by hand once we return to school so please continue to encourage your child to complete the work set.

Charter Home Learners This Week

Reception - Pupils and parents in Reception have been working hard and posting updates on their tasks on the software Tapestry. Mr Szajko is very impressed with everyone who is using Bug Club for reading with their children. Each day Mrs Baxter has been reading a story for the children and posting it on Tapestry.

Reception Keeping Busy!!!!

It was lovely to see the children on Tapestry, all working hard at their home learning. We can see children cooking, cleaning, preparing their own sandwiches, being active with The Body Coach and sharing learning with their siblings. All the while with a big smile on their faces although they miss their friends and teachers.



Carolina is cooking and washing dishes!



Oliver's painting of a dinosaur and volcano!

In Year 2 we heard from Robert and his mum, who wrote:

“Hi, hope you’re well. Going okay here. Plenty of food at the local Tesco and had no problems printing the school work. Doing PE every day. Going to plant vegetables today. From Robert & his Mum”



Year 3 - Miss Kharbanda in Year 3 has been very pleased with how pupils in her class have been doing their work on Purple Mash. She received lovely diary entries from Hasnain and Safaa



Luigi in Year 4 working hard on his set work

Nicola in year 4 and her dad even composed their own piece of music

The Royal Rabbits of London
The Plot

Nicola Knell Matthew and Nicola Knell

♩ = 120

I'm Baz, I'm Splodge, I'm Grimbo. We're going to see the
Queen of England. To pho - to - graph her in her
nightie. To sell it for a mill - ion pounds.

What in inspirational email from Chloe’s mum in Year 4

‘Hello

Hope you are well. Just wanted to let you know what Chloe has been up to, she saw on the news that care homes aren’t allowed visitors and it really upset her. So I’ve got in contact with a care home for the elderly and now me and Chloe are in the middle of drawing 65 pictures for the residents, and once this over we are invited to the care home to meet them so they can say Thank you. Chloe wants to adopt one bless her. We’re also doing the school work set for Chloe.’

Years 4 have certainly been busy with Megan in Mulberry recording her own poem. You can listen to the Poem by following the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SWdQvu5aCQg>



Meanwhile Megan in Cedar has also been working hard



Year 5 – We have also received lovely feedback from a parent in Year 5 who wrote -

“We’ve started a routine, Joe Wicks 1st thing, then 1 piece of homework, then part of our jigsaw, then bike to school for packed lunch and exercise then lunch then more homework. Xbox only after 3.15!!!!”



Headteachers Homework



On Wednesday night I emailed teachers and asked them to set everyone a challenge. We had a request from a Patient/Carer Experience & Wellbeing Nurse at Watford General Hospital. She asked if children in the area would write letters of thanks to the nurses and medical staff at Watford General Hospital. Watford Football Club are also involved and have offered to make a

display of all the letters received. This might be a nice thing for to get your children to do, to thank all NHS staff for everything they are doing during this testing time. They have asked for the message to be no larger than one side of an A4 sheet of paper, with a message of inspiration and thanks to keep the staff going as they care for those people that are very sick. Please email your letters to your teacher and we will send them on.



At Holywell Primary School This Week

School was open this week for children of Key Workers and staff has been amazing at coming in and helping to cover each other when we were short staffed. The highlight of the week was the mention they received on Heart Radio and certainly got the WhatsApp group going again. Thank



you John Darin for thinking of us all. These parents, as instructed by the government, have the right to bring their children to school, to ensure many services can continue to be delivered to the public. I think you will agree we are very grateful to the Key Workers during this time of need for many. If you took part in the ‘care worker clap’ last night then I think you would agree the whole country sits behind our NHS to try and get through this pandemic. Pupils in school have continued to do a range of activities each day.

Key Workers During The Easter Break

A text message went out yesterday morning to remind Key Workers who are required to work that they must inform the office if they need care for their children over the next two weeks. At this point in time we have timetabled staff and offer care on all days except the bank holidays. We can however consider the bank holidays if there is a big enough demand from parents.



We will not be able to provide children of Key Workers attending school with a lunch, they will need to bring in their own packed lunch.

Key Workers After The Easter break

We are obviously awaiting the government review of the current arrangements regarding social distancing and school closures but will continue to offer care to Key Workers after the Easter holiday should the school remain closed. If you have completed a form previously we will assume you will continue to bring your child. However all parents considering bringing their child after Easter must complete a form if they have not already done so. Please email the school office if you require a form.

Free School Meals moving forward

Over the last two weeks we have offered packed lunches to pupils who are entitled to free school meals. We have since made arrangements with Tesco and can now offer pupils who are entitled to a free school meal a £15 Tesco voucher each week. A separate letter will go out to these families today, Friday 3rd April 2020, telling them how to collect their vouchers from school on Monday 20th April 2020. To avoid crowds of people on the school site and meet our social distancing requirements we will stagger parents coming into school so please read the letter carefully. Now that the government has set up their system we will register and offer parents those voucher from Monday 4th May 2020, assuming school is still closed at that time.

If you are not registered for Free School Meals and believe you might be entitled please check via the Hertfordshire County Council website on the link below.

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Easter Homework

Easter homework for all pupils will be loaded onto the school website today. We have worked on a much simpler format that should be easy to understand and complete.

Summer work for week 1 and week 2 will be uploaded onto the school website on Monday 20th April 2020. Most lessons in PowerPoint will follow a timetable set by teachers and will require pupils to complete an activity in Purple Mash. All pupils should have a username and password for Purple Mash, if you cannot access it please email your child's teacher.

We would like to remind you that the 20th April 2020 is an INSET day and all staff will take part in training on that day. Thank you to those parents who have completed the online survey about learning over the past two weeks. We will keep the survey open so please take the time and let us know how you and your child have been getting on.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HCN99CD>

Contacting us

Even though school is 'closed' staff are still working. Those not in school each day work from home. If you need to contact the school then there are a few options available

Telephone - 01923 225 188 term time from 8:30 am until 3:30 pm.

Email: admin@holywell.herts.sch.uk

Parents are reminded that they can contact Mrs Bahirathan by email bahirathanb@holywell.herts.sch.uk should they need other support and information not related to their child's learning but maybe around issues like welfare, mental health, financial support.



The school also has a twitter account that we use to share information with parents and that can be used more effectively should we get more followers. If you have Twitter then please follow us on @PrimaryHolywell

Trips and clubs refunds

All parents should now have received refunds of monies paid towards trips and clubs for the Spring term.

You may email your child class teacher with issues relating to their class work. Teachers email addresses are:

Nursery		Mrs J Hewett	hewettj@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Reception Blue		Mr G Szajko	szajkog@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Reception Red		Mrs A Lazar	lazare@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Year 1	Sycamore	Miss H Whiting	whitingh@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Year 1	Maple	Mrs R Hussain	hussainr@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Year 2	Hawthorn	Miss A Hampton	hamptona@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Year 2	Hazel	Miss S Rozan	rozans@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Year 3	Pine	Miss N Kharbanda	kharbandan@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Year 3	Aspen	Miss C Downey	downeyc@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Year 4	Mulberry	Mrs A McLaughlin	mclaughlina@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Year 4	Cedar	Miss P Sammy	sammyp@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Year 5	Chestnut	Mrs Gurunathan Sankaran	sankarann@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Year 5	Elder	Mrs S Alexander (until Friday 3rd April 2020)	alexanders@holywell.herts.sch.uk
		Mr M Keller (until Friday 3rd April 2020)	kellerm@holywell.herts.sch.uk
		Mrs L Clarke (from Monday 6 th April 2020)	clarkel@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Year 6	Rowan	Mrs L Bancroft Prescott	bancroftprescottl@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Year 6	Birch	Miss L Rogers	rogersl@holywell.herts.sch.uk
Year 6	Elm	Miss L Patrick	patrickl@holywell.herts.sch.uk

