



# 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**

Wednesday 22nd April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Following my letter on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2020, I would like to provide parents with a few updates before the next newsletter.

## Google Classroom

All teachers have organised an introductory remote session with their classes that will have taken place by this afternoon. Teacher will continue to contact parents via their email addresses for safeguarding purposes. Please check your email regularly as there are frequent updates. In addition, teacher will also deliver two lessons via the remote system by Friday. Make sure you are familiar with your child's session. If you have not yet received a time please contact the teacher via email. Sessions will be recorded and emailed out later for those that can't access it at the set time. We have staggered sessions so that Year groups have different times; this will help where families share devices. If you struggle to access our online content please make us aware.

## Key Workers

We have continued to stay open for Key Worker children. From today those children will be doing the same work that is set for pupils learning from home.

## Free School Meals – Vouchers

There will be a second opportunity to collect vouchers from school if you are entitled to Free School Meals. Vouchers are valid for this week and next week only. The vouchers replace a free school meal that pupils would normally receive while attending school. This is not to be confused with Universal Free School Meals that all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to.

This Friday parents whose children are entitled to Free School Meals can collect a voucher from the school office. The times set for each year group are:

9:00 am – 9:30 am	–	Year 3
9:30 am – 10:00 am	–	Year 4
10:00 am – 10:30 am	–	Year 5
10:30 am – 11:00 am	–	Year 6
11:00 am – 11:30 am	–	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

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](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)



### **Working from home**

After the INSET day on Monday, and for ease of organisation, it was decided the best way to get work to pupils was for the teacher to email the work to parents. Loading work onto the website caused issues with the organisation of work, publishing rights and it is not always easy for parents to find which task and lesson are to be done next. Teachers have developed timetables for this week and set the work for each day. From next week onwards all pupils from Year 1 up to Year 6 will be completing their work in Google Classroom. All staff were trained on the INSET day and some of the virtual classrooms are looking great already. If not already done, the teacher will email parents with instructions how to access the work.

### **Newsletter**

For this Friday's newsletter we are looking for photos and messages to share from families to show how you have shown your appreciation and support for the fabulous work our NHS and Carers have been doing during this Coronavirus outbreak. Maybe take a few photos during this Thursday's 'Clap for our Carers' if you struggle for ideas. Please email them to them to [admin@holywell.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@holywell.herts.sch.uk)

### **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](mailto:admin@holywell.herts.sch.uk)

Parents are reminded that they can contact Mrs Bahirathan by email [bahirathanb@holywell.herts.sch.uk](mailto: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

Yours faithfully

Mr C van Straaten  
Headteacher