



Collingwood Primary School

week beginning Monday 20th April 2020

Dear Collingwood Family member,

Welcome back to our first ever "remote" Summer Term. I hope that you managed to enjoy the sunshine over Easter and are all safe and well. We were able to provide for key worker children throughout the two week "break" by combining efforts with schools in the Woodham Partnership and other nearby primaries. Thank you to Elmwood for hosting this.

School continues to be open for Key Worker children and have a small number attending every day. I would very much like to thank staff for their continued hard work, be it at home preparing resources and keeping in contact with you all, or on site with children. We have really enjoyed all of your pictures, comments and emails, and the messages left on the school gate. Thank you, this is keeping us going!

It has definitely been a strange and challenging 5 weeks, so it is perfectly normal if you and your child feel worried. We are here to support you as we try to figure this all out together. Remember, if you have any concerns about helping your child learn or if you need any other support from the school, contact us, (see below).

I miss the children very much, but we must all follow the government's guidance to keep everyone in our community safe but just because we're not all in the same building, does not mean that we cannot continue to have some fun together! Your children will be given lots of activities they can get stuck into over the summer term. We have loved seeing the children's fantastic learning at home - please keep uploading and look on the class website pages and the 100 Challenge Page to see what your friends have all been up to.

We do not know when school will be open again. We find out by watching the news, at the same time that you do, but rest assured that we will continue doing our utmost to keep your child learning and our school community connected.

I know that many of you already do but, if not, why not follow us on twitter @Collingwoodprim as I often send out messages which are not necessarily school related but could be helpful in directing you to useful information.

What is new

Hopefully, those eligible for free school meals will have now received vouchers. If not, please ring us on 01245 322258 Mon-Fri 9am-3:30pm. WMon-Rfi 9am-3:30pm or email us at admin@collingwood.essex.sch.uk.

Curriculum provision and Activities for pupils

We've all had to adapt to new ways of working, and life is not as it normally is for any of us so I wanted to take the opportunity to say what an amazing job you are all doing supporting your child's wellbeing. We do realise that some of you are trying to work at the same time as supporting your children in their learning and have tried to take this into consideration.

Online Resources:

Having reviewed the new DfE recommended online learning resources released by BBC, Oakland National Academy and others the school have decided to use English resources from the Oakland National Academy and Maths resources from NCETM for the time being. Additional details about how to use these resources to support home learning will be provided on class webpages by each class teacher as part of their weekly home learning guide (updated every Sunday at 6pm approx.)

Website Developments:

I hope you have found our rapidly expanding 'New look' webpages really useful. You can now access them all by clicking on the 'Home Learning' link on our main website front page:

www.collingwoodschool.net

Remember to check out your child's class webpage which will be updated every Sunday at approximately 6pm. Apologies, times may vary slightly depending upon whether I'm allowed to stop being a horse or dog or pasta in a box (my daughter has a strange imagination) or Joe Wicks substitute teacher by my children!
Mr Russell.

From this Sunday, the class pages will be updated with tabs across the top so that you can find things more easily. The home learning grids for next week will now be found on the "Learning" tab.

Parents Communicating with teachers

This week, you will have had email contact from your child's class teacher. Please do answer the questions we have asked you so that we can plan our next steps in supporting you. Please do contact them if we can help in any way and let them know if you would prefer them to contact you by telephone. Staff will read emails between 9am and 3pm, Monday to Friday, during term time. Please bear in mind that they are still working hard and are looking after their own families at the same time and may not be able to reply within 24 hours. **In an emergency you should still telephone school on 01245 322258 (during school hours) or phone 999.**

I will endeavour to send you a weekly newsletter each Friday, during term time.

Please stay away from public areas as much as you can, even if it is sunny, keep safe and we will see you all as soon as we are able.
Mrs Buckland-Garnett

Information from other sources

The Government guidance for parents on school closure has been updated and can be found here

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers?utm_source=e906c864-efbc-4515-b65964674f4b5d6a&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

Government information for parents on keeping children safe online at home

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Government Info on helping your child deal with stress/mental wellbeing

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-parents-and-carers-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak#helping-children-and-young-people-cope-with-stress>

