



Collingwood Primary School Newsletter

Friday 25th September 2020

“We live our lives with arms and minds wide open”

We have seen some very tired and emotional children in school towards the end of this week. The novelty of being back at school and with friends has definitely worn off for some. This is perfectly normal at this time of year. Expect younger children in particular to be tearful at times. If your child is ever reluctant to come into school, the best thing to do is kiss them and leave as soon as a member of staff is able to take them from you. Feel free to phone us when you get home, we will be honest about how your child has settled...they are normally fine once they are in the building and distracted.

We are happy for pupil Clubs, involving any one bubble, to start up again pending on our approval of their risk assessments. We will ask the leaders to make their risk assessment available to you so that you are able to make an informed decision about your child taking part. Mr Radley will be offering a Year 4 Football Club this term. Please contact him on 07790 439089 for further details. Governors agreed to review lettings after October half term but there are currently no adults, other than those working with pupils, on site, including in the evenings.

If your Year 6 child is absent due to real/virtual tours of secondary schools, please tell us so that we can use the appropriate register code and authorise this absence.

I have been concerned about the number of unsupervised children in 4OK and 6O at the back gate before school in the mornings. Staff usually arrive before 8:30am so it is unlikely that the car park is being used but not impossible. Children have been reminded to wait on the lines but please be aware that they remain your responsibility until staff open the door to let them in. If there is an issue regarding you having to drop different children off at different gates, please let the teacher know and we will try to work out an alternative for you.

We are always on the lookout for “as and when” Learning Support Assistants and Mid-Day Assistants to cover when staff are off sick or at training. If you have successful experience working with primary aged children, would pass all of the relevant medical and safeguarding checks, are happy to attend an interview and would like to be put on our list of people we call upon, please ring Mrs De’Ath on 01245 322258. Please note that this is irregular work and not a permanent position.

Another good week at Collingwood despite the doom and gloom on the news every night. Remember “Hands, Safe, Face” and keep safe and well. Thank you to all in the Collingwood Family for continuing to work with us in supporting the children, particularly in reassuring them that if we all keep to the rules, we will be safe.

Mrs A Buckland-Garnett

Pictures of year 6 enjoying skipping with Mrs Morgan and learning to 'sign' the words of the song 'Happy'



Frequently asked questions:

Can my child come back to school if they had symptoms but feel better?

If not tested but feeling better, they may not return until after the full 10 days isolation has been completed. (14 days for the rest of the household.)

If tested children may only return if the result was negative.

If one child has symptoms should brothers and sisters come to school?

No. Everyone in the household should isolate until the test result is received including those who attend other schools and workplaces. Other household members should not need to be tested unless they develop symptoms.

Who should not come onto the school site?

- Anyone displaying Covid-19 symptoms.*
- Anyone who has been contacted by Track and Trace and told to isolate.
- Anyone awaiting test results. (Please inform us of any results immediately)

*There are only 3 recognised symptoms of Covid-19: **a constant new cough (coughing for over an hour or 3+ coughing bouts in a 24 hour period)**, **a high temperature (38 degrees or feeling hot to touch on chest or back)**, **a loss/change in taste or smell**. If your child displays any of these, get a test and isolate (along with the rest of your household) until you know the result. For any other illness, please follow our normal rule which is "If they are well enough to learn, they are well enough to be in school."

How do I get a test?

Phone 111 or google "test centre near me" You can ask for a home test to be sent to you at <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name>.

if you are concerned about someone who has symptoms use <https://111.nhs.uk/COVID-19> or phone 999.

What if the result is positive?

Please let us know via the admin@collingwood.essex.sch.uk email if someone in your household tests positive. The latest Government guidance can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>. If we are informed that a pupil or member of staff have received a positive result, we will be informed of the appropriate course of action to take. We will communicate this to parents as soon as we are able using text, email, letter etc. so **please ensure that we have your up to date contact details at all times**. This usually

means that all "close contacts" (ie within 2m of the infected person at school and in other places) will need to self-isolate. This is why we are ensuring that class bubbles do not mix. This is why siblings do not have to isolate, if they have not had close contact with the infected person, even if a brother or sister has.

Our School Development Priorities and Curriculum

We continue to focus on pupils' Mental Health (using the Film Inside Out) during September as well as assessing pupils' abilities and identifying any gaps in reading, writing, spelling and maths between now and October half term. Please see your child's class page on www.collingwoodschool.net for greater detail.

If you think we are doing a good job, please tell Ofsted by clicking here [Give your views](#)

Governor News

Our Statement of Governance, which details the membership, attendance and work carried out by our Governing Body is available to view on our school website.

Our Governing Body has continued to meet virtually throughout school closure and have already met this term. Congratulations to Mrs Hargreaves, one of our longstanding Governors, who was elected as our new Chair of Governors last week. Mr Renton has agreed to continue as Vice-Chair, Mrs Hammond has been re-elected as Staff Governor, Mrs Perry is our new Chair of The Finance and Resources Committee and Mrs Scullion has taken up the role of Safeguarding Governor. If you are interested in becoming a Governor at Collingwood, please contact us and we can arrange for one of our Governors to speak to you about their role.

Our policies can be found, on our school website, on the policies page www.collingwoodschool.net

Message from Chelmsford Foodbank:

Any donations for the foodbank can be left in our foyer - they are currently in need of the following items:

- tinned potatoes - jam/preserves/spreads - instant mash sachets- instant custard sachets - tinned custard - tinned rice pudding - ladies deodorants - ladies shampoo - washing powder/liquid/gel

Chelmsford Foodbank provides emergency food for people in our local community in crisis. This year, sadly, many may need to access the service that have not needed to before. In order to obtain food, you need a voucher which can be accessed from the Child and Family Wellbeing Service

<https://www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk> 0300 247 0014, Or Citizen's Advice

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/contact-us/search-for-your-local-citizens-advice/local-citizens-advice-details/?serialnumber=100386> 01245 205579. You will then be able to collect food from the Foodbank centre or arrange for a delivery.

Dates for your diary

All dates can be found on our website calendar at www.collingwoodschool.net If school is ever closed, at short notice, it will appear on <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Emergency-School-Closures.aspx> and the school website/twitter first and be announced on Essex FM and BBC Essex as soon as possible. Please avoid ringing the school as the phone is unlikely to be answered whilst we are organising staff!

Mon 19th - Thursday 22nd October Virtual Termly Learning Conferences (You will be sent booking details nearer the time)

Mon 26th - Fri 30th October Half Term

Mon 21st Dec-Fri 1st Jan

Christmas Holidays

2021

Mon 4th Jan

First day of Spring Term

Mon 15th - Fri 19th Feb

Half Term

Mon 29th Mar - Fri 9th Apr

Easter Break

Mon 3rd May

May Day

Thursday 6th May

School Closed for Polling

Mon 31st May-Fri 4th June

Half Term

Friday 16th July

Last Day for pupils

Mon 19th - 21st July

Non Pupil Days - school closed

School Closure days for 2021-2022 are not usually agreed by Governors before June. These will appear here and on our website calendar as soon as these have been agreed.

other helpful sources of information

What to do if your child sees something upsetting online (Safer Internet Centre)

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/advice-parents-what-do-if-your-child-sees-something-upsetting-online>

Online resources for parents & carers (Childnet International)

<https://www.childnet.com/ufiles/Parents-and-carers-resource-sheet-1019.pdf>

The Essex Family Support Service



Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline is available to answer questions about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline by calling: Phone: 0800 046 8687 Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm