



## Collingwood Primary School Newsletter Friday 9th October 2020

"We live our lives with arms and minds wide open"

Thank you for your supportive messages following last weekend's notification. We have passed on your good wishes to the diagnosed adult. We do not underestimate how inconvenient this has been for you, particularly if you have siblings to bring to school. I apologise if I have not been able to respond directly to all of your emails personally but the answers to any frequently asked questions that we have not already answered, can be found below.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Caton and our cleaning team who came into school and worked solidly last Sunday so that the building was squeaky clean and ready for pupils on Monday.

Rest assured that staff have always maintained the hands, face, space rules and take staggered lunch breaks, carry out cleaning and often eat or work alone, in class, outside or even in their cars...working in a school is not much fun for us at the moment! Not being able to "work at home", we are all acutely conscious of the need to adhere to the rules outside school too, but in Woodham there are lots of different interwoven groups of adults and children mixing outside school and we **all** need to adhere to the rules if we want to avoid the virus spreading across the town. The frightening reality is that everyone in our Collingwood family needs to limit the number of people they do not socially distance from. Thank you to all of those who have decided to wear face coverings when dropping off and picking up children. As I said in my newsletter on Saturday, nobody gets Coronavirus on purpose but we all have a part to play in stopping the spread. We look forward to welcoming our Year 2 staff and pupils back on Tuesday.

Mrs A Buckland-Garnett

### **Our School Development Priorities and Curriculum**

We continue to focus on pupils' Mental Health (using the Film Inside Out), as well as assessing pupils' abilities and identifying any gaps in reading, writing, spelling and maths between now and half term. Please see your child's class page on [www.collingwoodschool.net](http://www.collingwoodschool.net) for greater detail. This will be shared with you at our Virtual T.L.C. meetings.

Staff and Governors are continuing to develop our new Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) policy which becomes statutory for primary schools later this year. Once this has been drafted we will be seeking your views on the content.



Year 6 have been evacuees for the day, where they learnt about what life was like in 1940.

Year 6 have learnt about the 'Battle of Britain', and have used the art of paper folding to make spitfires to decorate their classroom

Year 5 have been learning about Greek art and Medusa!



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 policies can be found on our school website, on the policies page [www.collingwoodschool.net](http://www.collingwoodschool.net)

Our Curriculum committee met this week to discuss our baseline assessments of pupils gaps in learning due to the national lockdown. These will be shared with you at your T.L.C. Or One Planning meeting.

### Vacancies

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 or Mrs Wraight on 01245 322258. Please note that this is irregular work and not a permanent position.

### Frequently asked questions

#### Can pupils wear polo shirts in winter?

Yes. All uniform details can be found here <http://www.collingwoodschool.net/about-the-school/our-uniform/>. As long as uniform is **plain** navy and **plain** white, we are happy to be flexible. It is more important to be warm with doors and windows open. Trainers or non-slip shoes should be worn and tracksuits/jogging bottoms (of any plain colour) are allowed on PE day. Every child needs a coat with a hood...we go outside in all weathers in line with the COVID guidance which promotes outside learning as much as possible.

#### What does "close contact" mean? (Taken from the N.H.S. website)

##### What does close contact mean?

Examples of close contact include:

- close face to face contact (under 1 metre) for any length of time – including talking to them or coughing on them
- being within 1 to 2 metres of each other for more than 15 minutes – including travelling in a small vehicle
- spending lots of time in your home, such as cleaning it

Only those who have been in "close contact" with a diagnosed person, need to self-isolate which is why we were advised to inform you that siblings of pupils in yr 2 should continue to come to school.

## Why isn't Year 2 split into 2 bubbles so they do not all have to isolate?

At Collingwood, each year group is one bubble not each class. We do not have any spare classrooms, all are in use. Year 2 are in one big double classroom so there is the possibility of close contact between all in the room so the whole bubble must isolate. Year 4 are also one bubble but split into 2 classes in 2 different smaller rooms. If a Yr 4 teacher has a positive test, it is likely that only 1 class would isolate however if an adult working across the year group had a positive test eg a sports coach, it would be the whole bubble. In some large secondary schools year group bubbles of 200+ have had to isolate. We have kept our bubbles as small as we can, thank goodness we are no longer open plan!

## Why are there more than one group of parents at each gate?

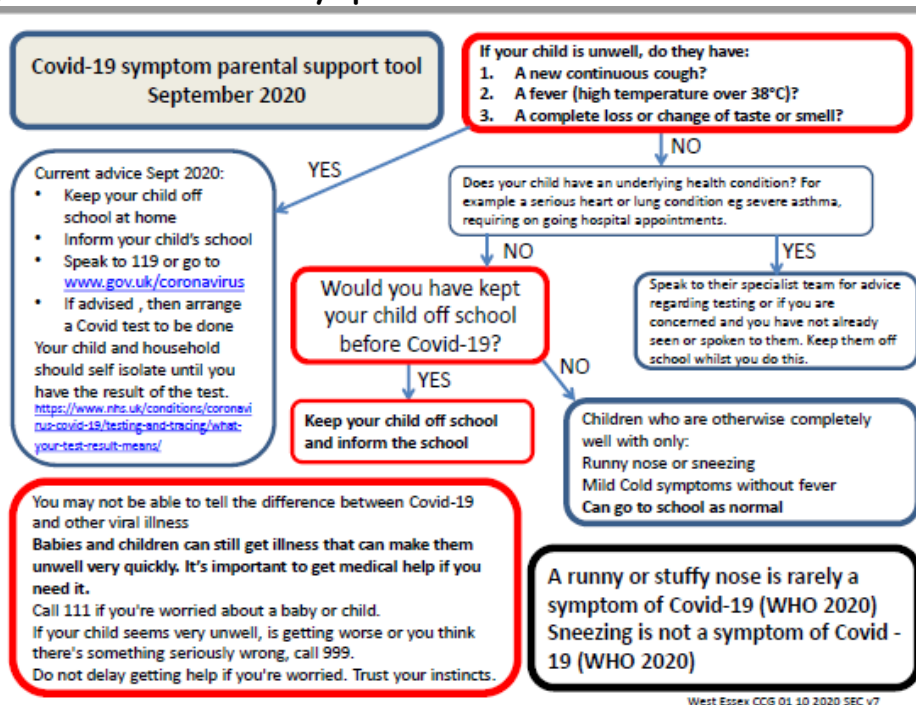
We have tried our hardest to avoid this with staggered start and finish times and by using all 4 gates. There are only 1-3 bubbles at each gate. We tried to reduce the number of parents gathering by opening the gate for 4M earlier and keeping it open until the agreed time but not all parents are able to do this due to the need to drop off siblings at other gates. Unfortunately, some adults are not socially distancing which is putting the rest of us in danger. Thank you to all of you who are keeping safe.

## 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)

\* 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.

## How do I know if my child has Covid-19 symptoms or a cold?



## 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](mailto:admin@collingwood.essex.sch.uk) email if someone in your household tests positive.



The Mayor of Chelmsford's Christmas Card Competition is open until midnight on 31 October and here's where to enter - [www.chelmsford.gov.uk/xmascard](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/xmascard)

The Mayor is searching for festive entries in three categories: Drawing, Photograph and/or Poem that represent the theme of 'Family'.

The competition is open to all aged 4+ with some amazing prizes up for grabs:

- Mace Playce annual pass
- Jump Street jump sessions
- Tiptree Tea Rooms afternoon tea
- Riverside Leisure Centre Family Swim
- Channels Estate brunch voucher
- Little Channels afternoon tea
- Barleylands family pass
- The BakeHouse afternoon tea

### Dates for your diary

All dates can be found at [www.collingwoodschool.net](http://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 October	Whole Flu Immunisation
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Virtual Termly Learning Conferences (You will be sent booking details. <b>(Closing date for booking is Sunday 11th Oct at 10pm)</b> )
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Half Term
Sat 31st October	Closing date for secondary school applications
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec-Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Christmas Holidays

### 2021

Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	First day of Spring Term
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half Term



Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar - Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Easter Break
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	May Day
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	School Closed for Polling
Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> May-Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Half Term
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Last Day for pupils
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> - 21 <sup>st</sup> 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 sources of information

### Online Safety

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



- Families with children 8-19, younger siblings welcome
- Supporting families to develop & retain positive relationships
- Promoting safe choices & wellbeing
- Supporting people to meet with peers & communities
- Building healthy family relationships

Contact us:  
01206 505250/families@community360.org.uk  
or ask your local Family Hub

**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

**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 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.