



## Collingwood Primary School Newsletter

Friday 6th November 2020

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

Many of you enjoyed the Virtual Termly Learning Conferences held before half term. Teachers will be emailing you your paperwork directly. Please email them if you have not received it by Monday 9th November.

The children all returned looking smart in their winter uniform this week. You might need to consider black hoodies and joggers or tracksuit trousers on PE days, rather than shorts. Thankyou for keeping book bags small...please do not buy new school bags for Christmas, we have not got room! All uniform details can be found here <http://www.collingwoodschool.net/about-the-school/our-uniform/>

Over half term, we reviewed our Covid-19 whole school risk assessment in the light of national changes. There are no changes to the way we are working in school. Recent guidance has highlighted the importance of ventilation in reducing virus transmission therefore classroom doors and windows will be left open during lesson times as much as possible. Please speak to your child about how they feel in class...extra layers may be necessary when the weather is cold.

We are receiving a wealth of information from charities and businesses who are able to support families in times of financial hardship. Each organisation has its own criteria to be met. If you think that you may be eligible, please email [admin@collingwood.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@collingwood.essex.sch.uk) briefly outlining your circumstances and Mrs De'Ath or Mrs Wraight will contact you with any relevant information we hold on funding.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Poppy Appeal this year. We sold so many items, we have had to ask for more which is wonderful as the charity is not expecting many organisations to take part this year.

We all had a very exciting day on Thursday when the film crew came in. They filmed activities in every year group but especially E.Y.F.S. (socially distanced, of course), and lots outside activities. They left us with a camera full of smiley faced learners. I was so proud of our pupils. Unlike us adults, they were not daunted one little bit by the lights, microphone or camera. Thank you for ensuring they all looked so smart. We look forward to seeing which clips have been chosen for the final version in about a week or so. As you will be aware, we have had to do this as we are unable to hold our normal parent tours of the school. Please let anyone with a child starting school next September, know.

In my virtual assembly this week, I asked the children to carry out a class survey to find their top 5 dinners so that we can consider putting them on our menu at school. This might be something you would like to discuss as a family at home.

I hope that you are all safe and managing well during this new national lockdown period. Keep smiling, do the right thing and look after each other and hopefully we will all be out the other side soon.

Mrs A Buckland-Garnett

## Our School Development Priorities and Curriculum

Teachers reviewed our Recovery Curriculum this week and have planned our focus areas from now until Christmas. The specifics for your own child will be detailed in their T.L.C. paperwork and on their class page of our website.

Year 4 have been making volcanoes using water bottles and paper mache.



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 Finance and Resources and Pay and Performance Committees met virtually this week. Staff were thanked for their continued hard work at making Collingwood a safe and happy place for pupils in these uncertain times. Our plan for building and maintenance work was discussed and spending against our budget plan was monitored including additional covid-19 related unexpected expenditure, school meals and our 7 til 7 Club.

## Children in Need Day

We still plan to join in Children in Need Day on Friday 13th November even if this may not be in the same way as we normally do. Each class will be taking on the "Act your Age Challenge" (teachers will let you know what this involves for your child's class) and we will hold a non-uniform day as this is something the children themselves have asked for. Donations need to be made online this year so please do not send money into school. Please use this link <http://www.justgiving.com/owner-email/pleasesponsor/cin2020-3063953> or scan the QR code below to make your donation.



## A Plea from local residents

We have been contacted by more than one neighbour this week regarding the inconsiderate parking and unsafe driving of some parents, particularly at home time and the fact that some older Collingwood pupils have been seen climbing on private property near the Benbow Drive and back gate entrances. We share their concerns for our pupils' safety and therefore our advice is always to report any incidents to the police. Please put our pupils' safety and wellbeing first!

## **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 on 01245 322258. Please note that this is irregular work and not a permanent position.

## **Essex News**

Essex County Council has commenced a public consultation on a proposal to establish a 210 place primary school to be opened on the St Luke's development, Rettendon, from September 2022. The consultation document can be found at <https://www.essex.gov.uk/school-organisation-and-place-planning/consultations-and-statutory-proposals>

The County Council is seeking the views of all interested persons about the proposal to establish a new school on the St Luke's Park development. Time slots have been arranged to provide an opportunity for parents and members of the local community to ask questions and comment on the proposal by telephone appointments. These will be available by booking in advance only and will be available between 10 - 11.30am and again between 6 - 7.30pm on 19th November 2020. Please email [school.organisation@essex.gov.uk](mailto:school.organisation@essex.gov.uk) to book an appointment (alternatively you can call 033301 31071).

**The closing date for comments on the proposal will be 13 December 2020.**

## **Frequently asked questions**

### **What do national changes from 5th November mean for Collingwood?**

Very little! We have reviewed our whole school risk assessment and intend to continue working as we have been since September. It is the Government's intention to keep schools open. The latest Government guidance can be found here: [what parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)

### **Is The 7 'til 7 Club open during this national lockdown?**

Yes. Childcare is considered to be an essential service. Our Club is run by our own staff so as long as school is open and we have enough staff to run the club, it will remain open.

### **Can my child's school place be held open if I decide to home educate during lockdown?**

No. Parents choosing to home educate must inform the school in writing at which point they will be removed from the school roll. The place may have been taken if, at a later date the parent decides to return their child to school.

### **Can after school football club still run?**

Guidance from the Department for Education received only yesterday specifies that a club can run if the school feels that it is safe. Since Mr Radley is already working with us as a sports coach, in line with our whole school risk assessment and is only offering the Club to the same bubble that he teaches, we have agreed that the Year 4 football Club can continue.

### **Are children wearing face coverings in school?**

No. This guidance is for secondary school aged pupils when they are in communal areas. Our children do not leave their classrooms other than to go to lunch or to go outside and this is all carefully organised so that different groups are not in areas at the same time. Adult visitors (not staff) wear masks on arrival but remove them once able to socially distance. Staff from different bubbles are rarely together and always socially distance when they are e.g. at a meeting held in the large hall. The wearing of masks for Primary School staff in communal areas is optional however, other than at lunchtime, it is rare for staff from different bubbles to meet and when they do, it is always in limited numbers so they can socially distance.

### 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 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.

## 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!

Fri 13th Nov	Children In Need Day
Wed 9th Dec	Christmas dinner/jumper day (more information to follow)
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

**Free  
School  
Meals**



**Are you entitled?**

- Do you need help in these difficult times?
- Were you struggling to feed the children during the Half-Term holiday?
- South Woodham Ferrers Town Council is supporting Essex County Council helping families who are eligible for free school meals.



Please call South Woodham Ferrers Town Council to see what we have to help you – our contact number is

01245 321817 or email  
christine@southwoodhamferrerstc.gov.uk



### Online Safety

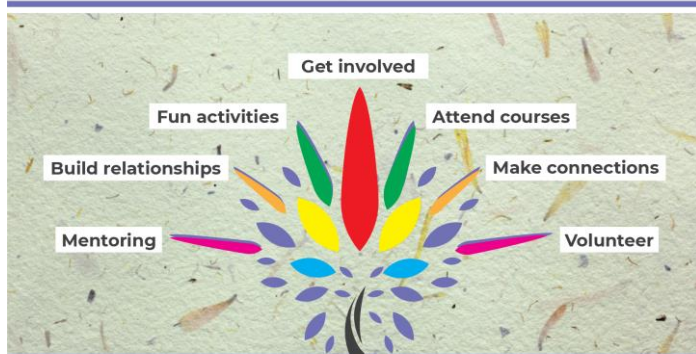
What to do if your child sees something upsetting online (Safer Internet Centre)

<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



Community360  
Winsley's House, High Street, Colchester CO1 1UG  
Facebook.com/families360org | @families360org | Community360org  
Visit: www.community360.org.uk  
Charity Number: 09432007 Registered Charity Number: 1092067

virgincare  
Believe in children  
Barnardo's  
community360 Together We Thrive



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](https://www.aclessex.com/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.



**FAMILY  
LEARNING**



### Essex Wide courses/workshops for all parents/carers/grandparents

ACL aims is "Improving Lives through Adult Learning in Essex", as part of this we have a dedicated Community and Family Learning team to support parents/carers/others supporting children and families in Essex. **These are delivered online, are FREE to attend.**

Understanding Children	Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> November 9:30-11:30	4	Carly+	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/Understanding-Children-9th-Nov">https://tinyurl.com/Understanding-Children-9th-Nov</a>
Understanding Maths KS2	Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> November 12:30-14:30	3	Mary Jane	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/UMKS2-Mon-9th-Nov">https://tinyurl.com/UMKS2-Mon-9th-Nov</a>
Understanding Children Part 2	Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> November 9:30-11:30	3	Mary Gillian	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/Understanding-Children-Part-2">https://tinyurl.com/Understanding-Children-Part-2</a>
Family English for EAL parents	Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> November 12:30-14:30	3	Mary Gillian	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/English-EAL-10th-Nov">https://tinyurl.com/English-EAL-10th-Nov</a>
How to talk so your children will listen	Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> November 18:30-20:30	1	Gillian Jane	Booking opening soon <a href="https://aclessex.com/community-family-learning-online/">https://aclessex.com/community-family-learning-online/</a>
Storysacks Early Years	Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> November 9:30-11:00	1	Mary Hilary	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/Storysack-Early-Years-11th-Nov">https://tinyurl.com/Storysack-Early-Years-11th-Nov</a>
Understanding Anxiety	Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> November 19:00-20:30	2	Carly Gillian	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/Understanding-Anxiety-12th-Nov">https://tinyurl.com/Understanding-Anxiety-12th-Nov</a>
Family Kitchen @ ACL Colchester	Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> November 10:30-12:30	2	Vicki	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/Family-Kitchen-24th-Nov--2week">https://tinyurl.com/Family-Kitchen-24th-Nov--2week</a>
Family Kitchen At ACL Clacton	Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> November 9:30-11:30	2	Vicki	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/Family-Kitchen-ACL-Clacton">https://tinyurl.com/Family-Kitchen-ACL-Clacton</a>

More sessions are added weekly -so please keep checking our Facebook page - or <https://aclessex.com/community-family-learning-online/>



**Reverend Carol writes...**

**6<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

**Remembering**



This weekend is special. It is the weekend when we wear our poppies and remember people who have been affected by war. And you may wonder why we do this every year. After all, although there are conflicts all over the world, there hasn't been a World War for over 70 years. Even I am not old enough to remember that! The reason that we remember is to give thanks for all those who served their country, and to remember the lessons that were learned during the war – because those lessons (families are important, we must be grateful to those who serve, we should love one another) are great lessons for the future.

At the moment, we are fighting a war with a virus. And we are learning lessons all the time. We realise how important our families are – because we can't see them, and we miss them. We realise that some people are making sacrifices to keep us safe and we are incredibly grateful. We realise that there are people in our society who need our love and help – and we are doing that.

But when this is all over – will we remember these lessons? Or will we just go back to our normal lives and forget. Maybe we will remember because we are living through this – but what about future generations. We would want them to know about this too.

Not many people are still alive who have lived through a world war. But we still remember the lessons of war because of Remembrance Day. Maybe there will be a Remembrance Day for the pandemic. I hope so – because it is good to remember.

**Feel blessed, be caring, keep praying.**

**Reverend Carol Ball**

### **Prayer**

Dear God,  
Thank you for people who have given us special memories,  
And for the things those memories have taught us.  
Help us to remember the lessons we are learning now,  
And to pass those lessons on to future generations.  
We pray for our families and those who help us.  
We pray that we will love one another more.  
Amen.



### **Video corner**

Watch this video about Mr. George remembering a lucky escape during World War II

[The Day I'll always remember](#)

### **Methodist Church Weekend Children's Club**

The Chelmsford Methodist Circuit has a YouTube channel featuring a children's weekend club called 'Reality Kids'. Follow this link: [Chelmsford Methodists – YouTube](#)