



Collingwood Primary School Newsletter Friday 18th December 2020

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

Please follow us on Twitter @collingwoodprim

On Tuesday, we welcomed back a very happy Mrs Macartney, who was isolating but not unwell, a little earlier than expected thanks to the reduction to 10 days this week. I know that her class are delighted to have her back!

This week, we received information about The Essential Living Fund (E.L.F.) set up to support Essex families hit by the pandemic, which includes help with energy and water bills, food and other essential household items. Apply directly using the information shown here →

Additional support for families in other aspects is available from [essex.gov.uk/topic/support-for-residents](https://www.essex.gov.uk/topic/support-for-residents)

We emailed information to parents of children who are eligible for Free school meals vouchers during the Christmas holidays. If you think you are eligible and have not heard from us, please email admin@collingwood.essex.sch.uk

There are lots of activities which families can access over the holiday, (see the support section in this newsletter.) Thank you to all of the families and organisations who have passed on food parcels, money and Christmas presents for us to pass on to Collingwood families, they are very much appreciated. A special thankyou to Mr Trice who donated a fantastic hamper to say thankyou to Collingwood staff and to Mrs Wakefield who must have spent hours making us all beautiful face coverings, (including Wonder Woman ones!)...we really appreciate it too!

If you have not already seen it, make sure that you watch our much awaited, extra special, socially distanced, technology clever, nativity and Christmas performance. A text with the link was sent to you today, if not find us on Twitter @Collingwoodprim Thank you to all staff for organising the children but especially Mr Russell and Mrs Macartney who spent hours on their laptops putting it all together.

Hopefully, we will not hear from you during the holidays but just in case you or your child do test positive, our instructions can be found again at the end of this newsletter.

Yet another strange term has passed. I could not possibly have predicted even half of the things that have happened during 2020. What has been a very pleasant surprise is the extent of the kindness, care and generosity shown by members of The Collingwood Family towards one another and I include each and every one of you in that! I wish you all a peaceful, healthy and merry Christmas, (whenever you choose to celebrate it), and a new year full of hope and normality.

Mrs A Buckland-Garnett

If you find yourself in need of some help this winter, the Essential Living Fund can help pay for heating, electricity, water and food. We can also help you get essential household items like a fridge, cooker or table.

To get a grant you must

- Live in Essex, Southend or Thurrock
- Be aged over 16

How to apply

Check if this applies to you.

Visit www.southend.gov.uk/elfforessex

Or if you are vulnerable or have no access to the internet you can call 0300 7900124 (between 8:45am - 5:00pm).

 [thurrock.gov.uk](https://www.thurrock.gov.uk)

 **southend
onsea**
BOROUGH COUNCIL


Essex County Council

Goodbye to P.K.

Goodbye and thankyou to Josh PK, one of our longstanding sports coaches who leaves us this term. We wish you good luck in your new venture. Miss Cross has agreed to work with Year 4 after Christmas and we have been lucky enough to appoint a new, experienced sports coach, for Year 3, who will meet the children in January.

Catch Up and Curriculum Recovery

Staff have now finished their assessments with all pupils. Please see your child's Supporting Learning Book for their personalised information.

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

Governor News

Our Governing Body has its own page on our website. (Click on the link top right) 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

Do not forget the letter emailed to you about our Parent Governor elections. Please contact the school office on 01245 322258 if you wish to speak to one of our existing governors to find out more about what this rewarding role involves. All nomination forms need to be completed and returned to the main office not later than **Thursday 14th January 2021**. Our Governors look forward to hearing from you.

Covid Updates

We learned this week that the Government plans to carry out rapid testing in **secondary schools** from January. Here is a summary of the key details of the announcement:

- Weekly rapid tests will be available to all secondary school and college staff from January.
- Staff and students who are close contacts of cases will be eligible for daily testing, preventing the need for immediate self-isolation. Only if a daily test returns a positive result will the staff member need to isolate.
- Test kits will begin arriving at secondary schools and colleges for the first phase of rollout to staff from the first week of January.

As far as we know there are no plans to extend this or a staggered return, to Primary schools at the moment but we find out about Government announcements at the same time as you so keep an eye on the news.

As we enter winter and pupils and staff develop all of the normal coughs and colds associated with this time of year, do not assume the worst if staff are absent, we continue to attend meetings and training virtually so may be absent for other valid reasons and promise that we will always tell you if we are notified of a positive case. **Remember that if a member of your household is symptomatic, the whole household must self-isolate until the test result is received. Pupils should not be in school whilst someone is waiting for results.**

Dates for your diary

All dates can be found 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 21st Dec-Fri 1st Jan Christmas Holidays

2021

Mon 4th Jan First day of Spring Term (Remote Education Day)

In line with many Essex schools, Collingwood will provide remote education for all pupils including critical worker's children and vulnerable pupils on Monday 4th January 2021 enabling us to ascertain staffing for Tuesday 5th.

Tues 5th Jan	Pupils return to school (same times and gates as December)
Thurs 14th Jan	Parent Governor nomination forms to be submitted by today.
Fri 15th Jan	Closing date for Primary School applications - Sept 2021 start
Mon 15 th - Fri 19 th Feb	Half Term
Mon 29 th Mar - Fri 9 th Apr	Easter Break
Mon 3 rd May	May Day
Thurs 6 th May	School Closed for Polling
Mon 31 st May-Fri 4 th June	Half Term
Fri 16 th July	Last Day for pupils
Mon 19 th - 21 st 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 and support

Don't forget that we hold a wealth of information from organisations wanting to support you in times of financial hardship. If you think that you may be eligible, please email 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.

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: 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.


Community and Family workshops for parents are added weekly -so please keep checking <https://aclessex.com/community-family-learning-online/>



SAFE IN ESSEX PROGRAMME FOR THE FESTIVE PERIOD.

You can access Microsoft Teams via the internet or download the app 


FOR AGES 8-18

21st DECEMBER 

10am: **Exam Stress Workshop** – Some useful tips and advice on how to manage stress related to studies and upcoming exams.

1pm: **One Community**- Support group for young people who identify as LGBTQ+ exploring identity and belonging.

3pm: **Festive Quiz**- Fun quiz and riddles to make you think.

22ND DECEMBER 

10am: **Conflict Resolution and risky behaviours**- How to overcome conflict and find a solution to those difficult situations.

1pm: **Festive Survival Workshop**- fun tips on how to survive different situations, like being trapped in the North Pole!

3pm: **Festive Crafts**- a look at creating your own festive masterpieces and crafty creations on a budget.

23rd DECEMBER 

10am: **Managing Emotions**- Helping you to recognise, acknowledge and manage your emotions.

1pm: **One Community**- Support group for BAME young people exploring identity and belonging.

3pm: **Fun Festive Baking**– Forget The Great British Bake off, Safe in Essex have some simple but fun festive baking ideas for you.

SAFE IN ESSEX ADVICE LINE- 07725 639571

OPEN FOR ADVICE AND GUIDANCE OVER THE FESTIVE PERIOD. AVAILABLE DURING

21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 29th, 30th and 31st December - 10am to 2pm

To book your place, please check out our website; www.childrenssociety.org.uk/east/services/safe-in-essex
or contact Essexreferrals@childrenssociety.org.uk

YOUTH SERVICE | Inspire Enable Achieve

Meet&Eat

21-24th December 2020

11:00 – 3:00 each day

Come along and meet other young people (13-19 years) and take part in activities...

- Free Food
- Cooking
- Sports activities
- Crafting
- Games

Oranger Youth Centre
The Gables
CM15 0GA

Halstead Youth Centre
Parsonage Street
CO9 2ES

Stansted Youth Centre
Lower street
CM24 8LR

Green Lodge Youth Centre
(Clacton)
180 Old Road
CO15 3AV

Timbarlog Youth Centre
(Baldern)
Timbarlog lane
SP16 1UX

To book a place or to find out more contact:

youthwork@essex.gov.uk

Be who you
WANT to be...

YOUTH
SERVICE



PRINT AND KEEP THIS PAGE SOMEWHERE SAFE

Information for Parents regarding COVID19 Contact Tracing over the Christmas Holiday period

***How do I contact school during the holidays?** You should contact the school on admin@collingwood.essex.sch.uk between the hours of 9am and 3pm. You will not get an immediate response but this email address will be monitored. DO NOT telephone as staff will not be onsite.

☆How do I get a test? Book a test at your local testing centre via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. Do not use postal tests unless absolutely necessary as these take longer. ONLY THOSE WITH SYMPTOMS SHOULD SEEK A TEST.

If your child develops symptoms of COVID19 within 48 hours of being in school (before 3:30pm on Sunday 20th, if here on Friday 18th)

1. You must seek a test for your child☆
2. The household must isolate at home until the test result is returned.
3. You should let us know who has developed symptoms.*
4. If the test is positive for COVID19, you must tell us * so that we can identify close contacts. Please provide the following in your email to school: name of positive person/date of symptoms starting/class/bubbles part of in school during the 2 days before symptoms
5. If the test is negative, please tell us* and you do not need to take any further action.

If your child tests positive with no symptoms within 48 hours of being in school (before 3:30pm on Sunday 20th, if here on Friday 18th)

1. You must inform Collingwood*, who will identify and inform close contacts.
2. Please provide the following in your email to school: name of positive person/date of symptoms starting/class or bubbles part of in school during the 2 days before symptoms.

If your child develops symptoms of COVID19 more than 48 hours after their last day in school (ie after 3:30pm on Sunday 20th, if here on Friday 18th)

1. You must seek a test for your child☆
2. The household must isolate at home until the test result is returned.
3. You should let us know who has developed symptoms.*
4. If the test is positive for COVID19, you must contact NHS Test and Trace and follow the advice given by them: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/
5. If the test is negative, please tell us* and you do not need to take any further action.

If your child has no symptoms of COVID19 but tests positive within 48 hours of being in school (before 3:30pm on Sunday 20th, if here on Friday 18th)

1. You must inform Collingwood*, who will identify and inform close contacts.
2. Please provide the following in your email to school: name of positive person/date of symptoms starting/class or bubbles part of in school during the 2 days before symptoms.

If you are contacted by the school because your child is identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID19, they must self-isolate for 14 days.

If your child is unable to attend school on Tuesday 5th January

DO NOT CONTACT US BEFORE MONDAY 4th JANUARY.

Please use schoolcomms to let us know your child's name and why they cannot attend school.

