



Collingwood Primary School Newsletter Friday 5th March 2021

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

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Well...have you guessed who is behind the mask? Although different from our usual celebrations, I hope you have enjoyed **World Book Day** this year and our **Masked Reader** Competitions. Thank you to everyone who dressed for the day - your masked reader outfits were brilliant.



All 'Read Off' videos can still be viewed on our special webpage -<https://themaskeareader.collingwood.school> and entries to the competition will be accepted until Monday 8th March @ 12pm. Thanks to Mr Russell for all his techno wizardry in making it all work!

We are all Scientists! This week, we celebrated **Science Week**. Our focus was on being scientists and learning about the world through practical tasks. We have had lots of fun investigating and exploring. Here's just some of the things we have been doing.



Abbie mixed ingredients to make slime. It looks really sticky and messy...but lots of fun!



Sonny simulated how germs react to washing up liquid by putting pepper in a bowl and then putting some washing up liquid on his finger.



Max used a science kit he had at home to experiment with colour mixing. He remembered to be safe and wear his goggles too! Look at all the colours he made.



Sophie from year 6 did some research about her fingerprints



Ruby made a different kind of paper aeroplane. I wonder if it travelled further?



Year 5 have been making lava lamps.



Some of us have worked with our siblings to find out how different substances react with each other. Look at the great patterns you can make with food colouring and washing up liquid.

What a great week! Well done to everyone who has taken part and thank you for the photos you have shared with us. It looks like you have had lots of fun learning about science and the world we live in. Thank you to Mrs Burroughs for organising such a great Science week for everyone!

Mrs Minister has informed me that, after an amazing 23 years at Collingwood, she plans to retire in July! I know that this will be as much of a shock to some of you as it was to us...she can't possibly be that old! Governors have started work on finding a suitable replacement but she will be a very tough act to follow as I am sure you will agree.

Over the next three weeks leading up to Easter, teachers will be focussing on pupil's mental health and social and emotional skills. Just being in a room full of people is going to feel strange. Our aim is to help pupils to settle into good learning routines, reassure them and celebrate the masses of good work completed and new skills acquired since Christmas. We will be assessing in reading, writing and maths first and, after Easter, we will allocate our **Catch Up funding** to target individuals and groups before, after and during school hours. We will let you know more about this when we can.

Unfortunately, I have been approached by neighbours yet again this week, who have been subjected to inconsiderate driving and abusive language from one of our parents. Please be aware that we do report your car make and registration number to the police and advise neighbours to do the same. Such behaviour is not tolerated from children and will certainly not be tolerated from.

We are all so excited about having all of our lovely children back in school and I suspect most of you are too! Have a lovely weekend, make sure you get lost of sleep...next week is going to be fun!

Mrs A Buckland-Garnett

Behaviour Reminders

Over the weekend, please make sure that your child knows what will happen if they do not socially distance or refuse to wash their hands or comply with any of our Covid secure rules. These are displayed in every classroom on our coloured grids and are as follows:

If children INTENTIONALLY do not adhere to social distancing or any our expectations put in place to keep them safe (see below), we will continue to use our yellow, orange card system as children already understand this.

We will follow this procedure:

1. remind your child this is a rule to keep everyone safe and ask them again to comply.
2. speak to you in front of your child and ask you to tell them to comply (in person or on the telephone)
3. issue a yellow card (Your child will lose 2 privileges of the staff members choice - please show your disappointment and consider loss of privilege at home) *Spitting, intentionally coughing at someone, biting and licking or any form of intentional body contact will not be tolerated and will result in an immediate orange card being issued.
4. issue an orange card (Your child will lose 4 privileges at school - please show your disappointment and consider loss of privilege at home)
5. You will be asked to collect your child immediately and they will need to work remotely for the rest of the day. This will be recorded as a fixed term exclusion for challenge to authority and unsafe behaviour.

We expect all pupils to:

- Follow altered routines for arrival and departure.
- Follow hand washing/cleaning routines and use of toilets and “catch it, bin it, kill it” procedures when coughing and sneezing.
- Follow rules about what to share/not to share and what can/cannot be brought in from home. (On no account should children share their food or drink bottles.)
- Follow adult instructions on who they can play with and where they can eat and play at playtimes or lunchtimes. They will be expected to stay within their year group and playground zone at all times.
- Tell an adult immediately if they feel unwell.
- Pupils with S.E.N. who would normally have permission to leave the classroom in certain circumstances, will not be able to do this and will have a personal risk assessment carried out by staff parents so that all are clear about what will happen.

Arrangements from 8th March 2021

- **All Collingwood children are to return to full time school on Monday 8th March.** Attendance is mandatory unless pupils have received a letter stating that they are clinically extremely vulnerable (Please inform Mrs De’Ath or Mrs Wraight in our office and provide us with a copy of your letter.) There is no change to our policy on term time holidays, these will not be authorised, children need to be in school now, more than ever.
- Our whole school risk assessment has been reviewed by staff and governors and has not changed significantly since December. It can be viewed here [Collingwood Covid Risk Assessment](#)

Uniform:

- Summer or winter uniform is permissible as long as it is plain navy or white without markings other than the school logo. No ties. Trainers or non slip footwear must be worn to enable safe outside play without changing.
- For now, children will continue to wear PE kits on their PE days. Please note that hall use is still limited so **we will go outside in all weathers including light rain so a coat**, tracksuit, leggings or joggers, preferably black, may be required. (PE days are: Tuesday for Yr 5 and 6, Weds for EYFS and Yrs 1 and 2, Thurs for Yr 4 and Fri for Yr 3.)

What to bring to school:

- Timings of playtimes are not flexible to avoid crowding on the playground therefore **your child will get wet if it rains and they have not got a coat!** We have not got staffing or extra rooms to let them stay inside
- Bookbags, water bottles, lunchboxes and coats are needed for all pupils, every day. No other bags...we do not have room, these will be left outside if brought to school
- Lunches can be ordered on the day, the menu is available to view on the school website. Our kitchen has been up and running all year. All children will be eating in classrooms so that halls can be used for other activities. Alternatively bring a packed lunch in a lunchbag ensuring that your child can open everything for themselves.

PPE:

- Face coverings will be worn by all adults (not pupils - this is only in secondary schools) where social distancing between adults is not possible, but not in the classroom unless they wish to.

Bubbles/Social Distancing:

- Class sizes are as normal, i.e. not in smaller groups. (This means that pupils will not necessarily be 2m apart from each other in class but adults will distance from pupils.) Pupils in Years 2-6 will sit in rows, next to each other. Younger pupils will move freely but not mix with other class bubbles.
- The playground has been "zoned" to allow up to 4 bubbles on the playground at once. Playtimes will be staggered and at lunchtime, each bubble will spend 30mins inside and 30mins outside. They will all have a full hour away from learning.

Testing:

- Primary age pupils will not be tested. Adults at home can collect tests from Sandon if they wish.

Other:

- No educational visits will take place at this term.
- *All adults on the playground, including parents, will be required to wear face coverings.*
- **Only one adult/parent per child on the playground (only adults for pupils in yrs 1-3 should be on the playground for drop offs; see below.) Anyone unable to keep their children with them, or any adult not wearing a face covering, will be asked to leave as it risks the safety of others and inconveniences other parents if we have to return to more staggered times.**
- If you arrive at a gate after the children have gone into the building, please stay where you are and ring 01245 322258 and someone will come to you!

Drop Off and Pick Up Arrangements

RR: Arrive at the main entrance and wait by the gate as before. Children will be met by staff at 9:00 am please collect at 3:10pm (shorter day as 20mins less outside)

Year 1P: Adults and children to enter via the Collingwood Road gate in the hedge, stand 2m apart, on the playground lines as before. Staff will open doors at 8.50am. At 3:20pm adults should stand on the lines to collect children who will be sent out in the order that parents are standing. (normal length day)

Year 2HB: Adults and children to enter via the Collingwood Road gate in the hedge, stand 2m apart, on the new playground lines outside the classroom door with steps. Staff will open doors at 8.50am. At 3:20pm adults should stand on the lines to collect children who will be sent out in the order that parents are standing. (normal length day)

Year 3CD: Adults and children to enter via the Collingwood Road gate in the hedge, stand 2m apart, on the playground lines as before. Staff will open doors at 8.50am. At 3:20pm adults should stand on the lines to collect children who will be sent out in the order that parents are standing. (normal length day)

Year 4OK: children only enter the car park gate and wait on the lines on the right of the hedge, as before, adults to stay at the gate until children have entered the building please. Staff will open doors at 8.50am. At 3.20pm Miss O'keeffe will bring the children out and will let them walk to parents she can see outside the gate as she did before. (normal length day)

Year 4M: The gate will now be open. Children only should enter via the gate at the top of Benbow Drive and adults to stay outside the fence until children have entered the building. Children to wait 2m apart, on the playground lines outside the classroom door as before. Doors will open at 8.50am. At 3:20pm adults should stand on the same lines to collect and children will be sent out in the order that parents are standing. (normal length day)

Year 5H: The gate will now be open. Children only should enter via the gate at the top of Benbow Drive and adults to stay outside the fence until children have entered the building. Children to wait 2m apart, on the playground lines outside the classroom door as before. Doors will open at 8.50am. At 3:20pm adults should stand on the same lines to collect and children will be sent out in the order that parents are standing. (normal length day) Mrs Hardwick will send out children who she has been informed can walk themselves home, first.

Year 6O: children only enter the car park gate and wait on the new lines to the left of the bike store and line up along the path with the bike store on their right, adults to stay at the gate until children have entered the building please. Staff will open doors at 8.50am. At 3.20pm Mrs Outhwaite will send out children who she has been informed can walk themselves home, first followed by the child of anyone she can see standing outside the gate. (normal length day)

Policies:

Our child Protection Policy has been updated in preparation for pupils return to school. It can be found here [Collingwood's Child Protection Policy](#)

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

We regularly email free school meals voucher information to parents. If you think you are eligible and have not heard from us, please email admin@collingwood.essex.sch.uk

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 at www.collingwoodschool.net

Covid Updates

The Link below is an update regarding eligibility for children and young people receiving the COVID vaccine. <https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/news-events/news/message-paediatricians-general-practitioners-children-young-people-covid-19>

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 8th March.	All pupils return to school
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

Please remember the Family Support section on our website <https://family.collingwood.school/home> (see drop down section top left for different sections) which contains lots of national and local information on health, online safety, anxiety, dealing with bereavement, staring etc.

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.

Additional support for families in other aspects is available from essex.gov.uk/topic/support-for-residents

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.