



NEWSLETTER

Thursday 21st January 2021

www.dedham.essex.sch.uk

Telephone: 01206 322242

Head Talk

Dear families of Dedham CE Primary School,

Thank you for your support during these difficult times; I understand the significant additional pressure that remote education is placing on families and very much appreciate all you are doing to help and support your children.

I have been impressed with how well children have engaged in their learning this week and have seen some lovely examples of work on Tapestry, Seesaw and in school.

Class teachers will have spoken to you, or will do shortly, to see how things are going at home, and whether there are any additional ways in which we can support you.

If you do have any queries or concerns, please remember that teachers can be contacted on Tapestry or Seesaw and the school office can be reached by phone or email.

Thank you for your continued understanding and support.

My very best wishes to you all,

Mr David Larnar
Headteacher

Live sessions using Microsoft Teams - update

The teaching staff will have completed their first sessions by the end of school tomorrow. Feedback from teachers, children and families has been very positive. After school tomorrow, teachers will meet to consider the next steps in developing this aspect of our remote learning offer.

There are just a few families who have not returned their Acceptable Use Agreement using the Google Form provided. Please remember to return this if you wish your child to participate in these live sessions.

Here is a reminder of the link to complete the Google Form.

<https://forms.gle/79gPKFrGmJ2o2BpL8>

Accessing Microsoft Teams

Please do make a note of your child's chosen password. Forgotten passwords have proved a stumbling block for some this week!

Lateral Flow Testing for school staff

Beginning next week, primary school staff are being strongly encouraged to take part in Lateral Flow Testing. Staff who choose to participate will take two tests each week. Testing is important as school staff could be asymptomatic and pass the virus to others without knowing it.

If a member of staff tests positive, they will be asked to book a PCR COVID-19 test at a local testing centre to have the result confirmed. Any member of staff who tests positive will have to follow government guidance on self-isolation until they receive the result from the PCR test taken at a test centre.

If this is the case, it will inevitably cause some operational issues at school. It may mean that we have to close a bubble at short notice.

If a bubble is closed as a result of a positive Lateral Flow Test, all children within that bubble will have to self-isolate immediately. If the result from the testing centre confirms the Lateral Flow Test result, then all children will



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be required to self-isolate in line with the government guidelines.

I appreciate that this may be unsettling for families attending our provision for children of critical workers and vulnerable children, but we hope that the regular testing of staff will ensure that we are reducing the transmission of Covid-19 in our school community.

Lunch money

If your child is attending school as a key worker/vulnerable child, payment for school dinners can be sent in with your child (cash, or cheques made payable to Essex County Council).

Lunch Menu for children attending in-school provision

W/c Monday 25th January will be Week 1 of the new two week menu.

A copy of the new menu is available [here](#).

News from St Mary's Church, Dedham

We now have a dedicated page on our website where you can find out more about upcoming services and events at St Mary's Church, Dedham. It can be found at the link below;

<https://www.dedham.essex.sch.uk/news-from-st-marys-church-dedham>