



NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 21st July 2021

www.dedham.essex.sch.uk

Telephone: 01206 322242

Head Talk

Dear families of Dedham CE Primary School,

Well here we are – the final newsletter for the academic year 2020 – 21 and what a year it has been! Thank you to all of you for your support and understanding during these very difficult times. Throughout the last sixteen months, I have been amazed by the children and staff and the resilience they have shown with everything that has been asked of them. It has been fantastic to see what a happy and safe place our school has been over the last year and it is all down to the hard work of the children and the staff and the support of you as parents.

We are saying goodbye to our Class 6 children on their last day at Dedham today. Last Friday, they spent the day at Mersea Outdoor Centre and took part in various different activities such as climbing, archery and an adventure course. We wish our Year 6 children all the best at their new secondary schools in September.

We also, say 'Goodbye' and 'Very Best Wishes' for the future to Mrs Plant in our school office. Mrs Plant has been at Dedham for 13 years and will be very much missed by everyone.

I would like to wish all of Dedham CofE Primary School's children and families a restful and happy summer.

Thank you for your continued support.

My very best wishes,

Mr David Larnar
Headteacher

Office opening hours from September 2021

School Office opening hours from 1st September 2021 are as follows.

Monday to Thursday – 8:00am -4:00pm

Friday – 8:00am – 3:30pm

Roadmap Step 4 Schools Operational Guidance update

At the end of last week, we received guidance from the Department for Education regarding how schools will operate after 19th July. Here is a summary of the changes. We decided to retain our protective measures and risk assessment for the final three days of term and will implement this guidance from September.

Ongoing control measures:

Schools should continue to maintain the following control measures:

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone
2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes
3. Keep occupied spaces well-ventilated
4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Start times, breaks, lunchtimes and assemblies:

In September, there will be no need to stagger the start and end of the day or breaks and lunchtimes. Assemblies where we congregate together will resume. The first day of next term for the children is Thursday 2nd September. It is our intention to return to our pre-Covid school timings. They are as follows.



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8:50am Start of day for KS2 children

9:00am Start of day for KS1 children

(All children can arrive from 8:45am)

10:45 – 11:00am Break

12:00 – 1:00pm Lunch

3:15pm End of day for all children

Bubbles:

From Step 4, it will no longer be necessary to keep children in consistent 'bubbles' in schools from the Autumn Term.

Responding to a positive case of COVID-19:

As before, children, staff and other adults should not come into school if they have symptoms or have had a positive test result.

If a pupil develops symptoms when in school, they will need to be collected by a member of their household or family.

Self-isolation:

From 16th August, children under the age of 18 will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead they will be asked to take a PCR test.

Anyone over 18 who chooses not to get vaccinated, or who has not had both doses, will need to self-isolate if identified as a close contact.

From Step 4, schools will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.

Face coverings:

From Step 4, face coverings will no longer be advised for staff and visitors, either in classrooms or in communal areas.

Regular asymptomatic testing:

There is no need for primary school age pupils or staff to test over the summer period.

Staff testing positive on an LFT:

In the Autumn Term, staff who test positive on an LFT test should self-isolate and get a PCR test. They should continue to self-isolate until the result is known.

Remote education:

We will continue to support those children who need to self-isolate.

We will continue to monitor the situation over the summer holidays and, closer to the beginning of the autumn term, we will write to you again to let you know if any of this guidance changes and also to confirm timings and arrangements for September.

New Classroom Build

The new classroom build is progressing well. It will be completed in time for the children returning to school in September. We thoroughly enjoyed seeing the classroom take shape yesterday.





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School lunches

W/C THURSDAY 2nd September will be WEEK 1 of the menu

If you are paying for the first half term it will be: £85.10 (37 days X £2.30 per day) – this will cover from Thursday 2nd September to Friday 22nd October.

The menu is available on our school app and via our website [here](#).

Thrive's 6 weeks of summer

Your challenge is to look after your wellbeing over the holidays with Thrive's 6 weeks of summer! The resource, which was sent home yesterday and is also attached with this newsletter, is full of activities recommended in Thrive practice to support social and emotional development.

To complete the 6-week challenge, choose one, two or three activities to complete each week and tick them off as you go.

Each week has a different theme, including nature, mindfulness, art and kindness. Your child could keep a scrapbook, picture collage or photos to document their activities over the summer holidays and then bring it into school to receive their certificate from Mrs Woolston.

Children and Young People's mental health and wellbeing – training opportunities

*Due to Government Funding in the Adult Education Budget. AIM have several **Free** online Level 2 CACHE/NCFE Accredited Courses available to Parents to help better understand some key issues around young people's mental health and wellbeing.*

They currently have the following subjects available.

- **Understanding Autism** (learn how individuals process sensory information, understand characteristics, understand conditions, learn how speech, language and communication differ in people with Autism)
- **Understanding Children and Young Peoples Mental Health** (Understand factors which may affect Young Peoples mental health, the impact that they have and how to support them with these issues)
- **Understanding Behaviour That Challenges** (supporting positive behaviour, effective communication & how to manage challenging behaviour)
- **Understanding Specific Learning Difficulties** (understand characteristics of ADHD, ADD, Dyslexia & Dyscalculia, importance of



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early diagnosis, assessment methods available to diagnose learning difficulties)

The courses are completed within in a 6-week window and are completed on a laptop, computer, or tablet at the learner's own pace. No Exams, end point assessments are involved, the courses are purely Q&A based and are available to you 24/7. You can do as many as you like, however you can just do one at a time.

The only criteria the learner must meet to be eligible, is the following.

- Aged 19 or over on or before 31st August 2020
- Have lived in the UK/EU for 3+ years
- Not already on a Government funded course (Apprenticeship for example)

*The course is completely free, but the learning provider reserves the right to charge a drop out fee in the event that someone enrolls, but then makes **no attempt to complete the course without a valid reason. That said, the college will grant extensions if the learner has a genuine reason as to why they feel they won't be able to complete it within the 6 weeks.***

If you are interested in undertaking one of these Free Online courses, then please complete the following link. This will then allow you to complete a quick Registration on their website. They will then contact you to explain how enrolment works and answer any questions you may have.

https://formstack.io/TyZSZiXRWndR4L6rW7HXEpqL8_drGsA9XWS0F15Xgj56D1utKVODlduJM61p1nhutkJz5MKkg5_gDCGGBIq0A

REMINDER - Notice for Parents of Children in Year 3 from September 2021 - Free School Meals

Automatic entitlement to a free school meal finishes at the end of Year 2.

Your child may be able to continue to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Applications should be made online **as soon as possible** at

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

Parent Group News – Summer Raffle

Thank you to all those who took part in our raffle last week and those who contributed prizes and sponsorship. With your help we raised a fantastic **£795.60** for the school.



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Thank you to all those who have supported us during this academic year, we wish everyone a fantastic summer break.

Kind regards,

Christine, Lara and Kate.

Free school meals – Have your circumstances changed?

If you believe your circumstances have changed during the period of lockdown and you could be eligible for free school meals then you can find the criteria and application process by following the link below:

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

Dedham School App



Please do download our app. It is a great place to easily access this newsletter, other school news and much more!

How to purchase our new school uniform with logo



Please follow the link below to purchase school uniform with our logo. You can also access our uniform shop by clicking on links in our school app.

<https://www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/dedham>

A bi-monthly delivery to school is free or items can be delivered directly to your home for a small charge.

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.

To find out more please follow the link below;

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



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Calendar dates 2021 - 2022

Date	Event
Autumn Term	
Wednesday 1 st September	Non-pupil day
Thursday 2 nd September	First day of autumn term for children
Monday 25 th October to Friday 29 th October	Half term
Monday 1 st November	Non-pupil day
Tuesday 2 nd November	Children return to school
Friday 17 th December	Last day of term
Spring Term	
Tuesday 4 th January	Non-pupil day
Wednesday 5 th January	First day of spring term for children
Monday 14 th February to Friday 18 th February	Half term
Monday 21 st February	Children return to school
Friday 1 st April	Last day of term
Summer term	
Tuesday 19 th April	Non-pupil day
Wednesday 20 th April	First day of summer term for children
Monday 30 th May (Bank Holiday) to Friday 3 rd June	Half term
Monday 6 th June	Non-pupil day

Tuesday 7 th June	Children return to school
Friday 22 nd July	Last day of term