

Sandford Hill Primary Newsletter



Week 25 - Fri 20th Mar '20

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STOP PRESS: WHILST WE ARE OFF, PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SCHOOL MOTTO OF THOUGHTFULNESS AND RESPECT FOR EACH OTHER.

Drastic Measures

It is with much sadness that we close the school today for the foreseeable future. In these unprecedented times of uncertainty, we are all being advised to change our normal routines and regular patterns of life for the greater good of the communities we live in, and, in particular, to protect the most vulnerable within them.

Thank you to all parents/carers who responded so quickly to our ParentMail forms, helping us to determine the children whose parents have an essential role in the response to the Covid 19 outbreak.

What will happen now:

- Packs will be sent home with all children that are not in school next week.
- Children who have been invited to attend school will complete the same work as that being set for pupils who are at home. After that, the children will be supervised by our staff so that their parents, who are key workers, can continue to undertake their essential skill.
- The website front page has links to resources, as well as vital information regarding helplines
- Regular information will be shared via the school website and social media

As we will not see the majority of you for many weeks, we send you all our very best wishes. Look after each other, keep safe and encourage your child to keep in touch with their teacher through comments added when handing work in on Purple Mash, while parents can communicate with us through the school e-mail or continue using the Absence Reporting facility in ParentMail.



School Attendance Target - 96.5% This week's attendance is 94.9%.			
N1	91.7%	Y2/2	93.9%
N2	100%	Y3/1	98.2%
N3	92.6%	Y3/2	96.3%
N4	92.9%	Y4/1	98.1%
R1	91.1%	Y4/2	91.8%
R2	91.8%	Y5/1	93.4%
Y1/1	94.4%	Y5/2	97.3%
Y1/2	96.6%	Y6/1	94.6%
Y2/1	93.9%	Y6/2	95.4%

Keep Active

While the children are at home, for what could be a long time, keeping active might be hard, but will be really important to help them burn off some energy.

There are lots of resources available, but one for children by the Body Coach, Joe Wicks is a daily kids workout.

[Click her to look at the link.](#)



Congratulations

- A super well done to **Eli H** who has read an incredible 3 million words! What a fantastic achievement!
- Congratulations to **Mconnel B** who has achieved his White Belt Purple Stripe in Taekwondo. Well done Mconnel.
- Congratulations to **Ellie-Mae G** who has passed Stage 6 in her swimming lessons!
- **Bobbi M, Evie G, Sophie L and Ellie T** were proud to tell the rest of the class all about their dance shows they performed in last week. Ellie brought in some photographs she had taken and the newspaper that she featured in. Well done girls!
- Congratulations to **Kai A, Alfie W and Mustafa K** who have completed their sticker charts. Super effort all of you.
- Well done to **Dominik W and Patryk W** on achieving their Level 6 Learn to Swim award.



Parent/Carer Notices

- As the office will not be manned at all times while we are closed, should you wish to contact school please use the Absence Reporting in ParentMail or e-mail office@sandfordhill.org.uk. Someone will then get back to you as soon as possible.



HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Snack Smart

As children will be home for lengthy periods and the access to snacks might be tempting - did you know that half the sugar that children have comes from snacks and sugary drinks? We all understand the importance of encouraging children to make healthy choices, especially around snacking, and when at school many of the children would take a piece of fruit outside at playtimes. Change 4 Life recommend that children have no more than 2 snacks each day, and that each snack is no more than 100 calories. For examples of healthier snack choices or for more information, please visit www.nhs.uk/change4life.



Updated Data

Thank you so much to all of you that returned your data collection sheet. We hope now that we have everyone's correct contact information and details. If during this period of school closure, you do change your phone, please remember to download the ParentMail app onto it and notify school if you change the number. Thank you.



Reading Rocks!

Last Friday, your child brought home a £1 book token and we do hope you have managed to exchange it for one of the FREE World Book Day books or for a discount on a different book. Studies show that Reading is the single biggest factor for success in later in life, outside of an education. So, as we focus in school on your child's education, including reading of course, we hope you are supporting your child as much as possible with their reading at home.

Top 10 tips to help children enjoy reading

1. Make books part of your family life – always have books/comics/magazines/leaflets around so that you and your children are ready to read whenever there's a chance.
2. Join Longton Library – get your child a library card. Allow them to choose their own books, encouraging their own interests.
3. Match their interests – help them find a book or magazine that they're interested in.
4. Get comfortable – sit somewhere warm and cosy with your child.
5. Ask questions – keep them interested in the story by asking questions such as, "What do you think will happen next?" or "Where did we get to last time we read?"
6. Read again and again – encourage your child to re-read favourite books and poems. Re-reading helps to build up fluency and confidence.
7. Bedtime stories – regularly read with your child at bedtime. It's a great way to end the day and to spend valuable time with your child.
8. Rhyme and repetition – Books and poems which include rhyme and repetition are great for encouraging your child to join in and remember the words.
9. Play games - Play 'I spy' ask your children, "Can you find words beginning with...?", "Can you find a picture of a?"
10. Make reading fun – give funny voices and engage with the pictures. Make a game out of finding words that rhyme or start with the same letter.



Free School Meal provision during closure

Government is making provision for those families currently entitled to Free School Meals (FSM). (This does not include all Universal Infant FSM currently provided for Reception, Y1 and Y2).

The full detail is yet to be confirmed, but we understand that those eligible for free school meals will be provided with a voucher for use in selected shop/food outlet.

As soon as we have further clarification we will notify entitled families via ParentMail as to how the provision will operate.

Build update

Next Monday 23rd March, the builders are expecting the delivery of our new teaching block for the front of the school. This will be a large lorry and will be coming up Clayfield Grove West. We have asked that the lorry delivers before 8:30am or after 9:30 am prior to knowing we would be closed, so please watch out for the lorry and ensure your children are safely off the road.



Recent blog posts to check out

- ⇒ [Nursery Planting](#)
- ⇒ Y1 [Common Wild Plants](#).
- ⇒ Y4 [Super Sewing](#)
- ⇒ [Year 6 Music](#)