

Newsletter December 2020



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE...

As I write this December issue of the newsletter I am looking forward to the month ahead. We very much want to make Christmas even bigger than ever this year as we feel its important for the children to have fun particularly after having such an unprecedented time. With that in mind there are many things planned that will be a little different this year as we cannot have the usual Christmas productions. This will start on Friday the 4th with the children making their own Christmas decorations and "trimming up" their classroom. Watch out for twitter next Friday to see the different designs.

We will however, be keeping our Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day on Wednesday the 16th of December. The children will also have the opportunity to watch the virtual production of Robin Hood over the next few weeks.

Christmas cards will be able to be brought into school but the children will need to leave them in their classrooms and they will be redistributed after 48 hours. There will be many other activities that the children will be undertaking so look out for the information which will come through text message, letter or twitter.

I personally would like to say a huge thank you to you all for your unwavering support at what has been a difficult time for everyone this year. I wish you a healthy, safe and enjoyable Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Yours sincerely

Natasha Kelly
Head Teacher

Crossing Patrol...

You may be aware that we have not had a lollipop lady on the crossing outside school since September. I have been in contact since this date to try and get one, particularly now the weather has turned and it is cold and damp. Please be mindful when crossing the road and keep your children with you as the traffic is extremely dangerous directly outside of school. We will be speaking to the children again about the importance of looking before they cross the road, particularly the older children who walk on their own.

Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter in keeping all the children safe.

Outstanding Balances

If you have any outstanding balances on your account please could you pay a small amount as we appreciate things are a little tough at the minute.

Key Dates for Your Diary

4th December – Class Decoration day

16th December – Christmas Dinner Day and jumper day – non uniform

18th December – break up for Christmas

4th January 2021 – return to school, not Nursery.

5th January 2021 – Nursery return to school

Individual class events will be notified by your teacher.



Bubble Closure ...

You will be aware that we have had 2 bubble closures since we came back to school in September. Below is some information we feel we need to share with you as to what would happen if a bubble does close and how home learning will take place.

Online learning – parental guide

What will happen if my child's bubble closes?

You will receive a phone call or text to inform you and ask you to pick up your child if they are currently in school.

Later in the day, you will receive a letter detailing what you need to do and when your child can return to school.

Your child will need to self-isolate and learn from home. This means that they should not be leaving the house.

Online learning on the Showbie platform will start either later that day or the day after.

PE and Spanish will be set on days when the children normally have these lessons.

Your child will need to log in to Showbie daily and check their PE and Spanish folders on the day that they normally have these lessons.

What learning will my child do?

Your child will have a daily Maths and English lesson and one Foundation subject e.g. PE, Spanish, History etc. or Science.

Your child should aim to complete each lesson on the day that it is set unless they are ill. This is because Showbie only allows ten assignments to be set at any one time, meaning that teachers will be archiving older lessons to make room for newer ones. If the lesson is not completed on the day, your child could miss out on their learning.

Lessons will be set with activities for your child to complete. There will be differentiated activities or support for those children who need it, and challenges to extend your child's learning.

If your child needs any support, they can ask their teacher on Showbie to help them. The teacher can respond in different forms, such as voice notes, videos etc. to support your child further with their learning.

Your child can write their answers on the activities set, type them in the box, leave voice notes or upload a picture or video of the learning that they have completed.

The teacher/TA will respond to all of your child's work. They will mark it and if your child needs further help, leave comments or voice notes to enable them to progress further.

Work packs

There will be an opportunity for your child to have a work pack if they have a special educational need.

If your child accesses a work pack, they should be using Showbie to look at the teaching such as videos etc. and upload pictures to Showbie of the work that they have completed. This will allow the teacher to give them feedback on their learning.

The work pack should be returned to the year group bubble on the first day back after isolation.

Phone calls

Phone calls will be made by members of staff from home using their own phones, so please pick up if you see a private number.

If your child does not complete enough of the learning, you will receive a phone call, from the TA where possible, to ask what support they need with their learning and to talk through what they need to do. If you cannot pick up the phone, a message will be left (where possible) to inform you that we will ring back later.

The teacher or TA will phone back again if the learning has not been completed after the initial call.

If the learning has still not been completed, this will be passed onto SLT and the Family Support Worker.

Your child will receive at least one phone call over the two weeks to keep them motivated with their learning and see if there is any support that they need.

Morning intervention

If your child receives morning intervention, this will continue with the TA over Showbie.

They will be set work to do each morning in line with what they would have been completing each day in school.

Your child should aim to complete this learning each day it is set and the TA will respond to them.

If your child needs any support, they can ask their TA on Showbie.

What happens if my child has to self-isolate but their bubble is open, or if I cannot get them to school because their siblings are self-isolating?

Ensure that you inform the school office who will inform their teacher.

Please be aware that your child will need to complete work on their class Showbie. As much as possible of the work set in class will be uploaded to Showbie for your child to complete. It may not be possible to upload all of it.

Your child's class teacher will not be available to support them during the day as they will be teaching.

Frequently asked questions

What happens if my child is ill?

Please inform the school office and they will inform the relevant staff members so that the teachers know that your child will not be uploading any work.

What happens if my child develops Covid-19 symptoms?

Please inform the school office and book a test.

What happens if my child is struggling with the learning?

Please contact your teacher on Showbie who can decide how to support them further.

What happens if I have a connectivity issue or the device my child is working on breaks?

Please contact the school office who will be able to advise you further and let the year group staff know.

What happens if my child does not know their Showbie log in details?

These details should be in their home-school organiser. If you cannot find them, please contact the school office who will be able to get the information for you.

If you have any further questions or queries, please contact your teacher through Showbie or the school office.

Useful website links

<https://www.spongyelephant.com/primarypupils/>

Phonics videos:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCo7fbLgY2oA_cFCIg9GdxtQ/videos

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP_FbjYUP_UtldV2K_-niWw

Maths videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfyh0qllwTEV8ktNRI0x5-g/videos>

<https://www.coolmath4kids.com/>

Safe child friendly search engine:

<https://www.kiddle.co/images.php>

Online books read aloud:

<https://www.storylineonline.net/library/>

<https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/>

<https://stories.audible.com/discovery>

BBC bitesize:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>