



Sandhurst Primary School

Newsletter
Spring Term
13th January 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Staff,

I hope you are all managing well. I am getting some fantastic reports back from staff of how well your children are all doing on-line. Well done everyone. What we really want to get is a balance of regular contact but something that is flexible enough to work around all your different demands of work, devices, mental-wellbeing and just managing day by day. I am sorry there was difficulty with Itslearning yesterday, we think it was just mass demand across the whole network. I am trying to pop into the zoom meetings just to say hello, but please don't worry if you do miss the odd zoom. They are there to support, not add an extra stress.

I would like to send all my love and best wishes to those who are poorly, isolating or waiting on test results. I know there are lots of you. Please take care and look after yourselves.

Thank you to all the families that have presented evidence of why your children need a place in school. Unfortunately, the demand has been greater than what is manageable and safe so I am having to make really difficult decisions as to who can be in and who can't. This is really hard but I do want to stress again that my priority is those frontline NHS staff, those working on the vaccine or the science behind COVID and those who need to be in the education setting keeping learning going. I totally understand how hard it is to be working full-time, at home, and try and educate your children, I am doing it too! But as Pinaki Ghoshal said in his letter to you on Monday, even critical worker children should be working from home where ever possible.

Free School Meals

Tomorrow we will be issuing free school meal payments and food parcels to cover last week and this week. I will text you all tomorrow once everything is ready to give out. We have just been informed the Eden Red voucher scheme is back up and running ready for next week. We will be setting that up as quickly as possible so you can start receiving your voucher to use where best suits you. Please also, don't forget you can order food parcels from our own food bank, just reply each Tuesday to Rob Harvey.

Mobile Data

I have applied to the government to get support with mobile data for families who do not have wifi. I have not yet heard if I have been successful. If you need any support with devices, data or on-line access please email sandlog@sandhurstprimary.lewisham.sch.uk

I want to say the biggest thank you to those of you that have been so generous in assisting us by buying extra devices or chargers to go out to our families. I have been truly overwhelmed with the generosity and support. Thank you from all of us.

Fruit

Unfortunately, as we are in lockdown the government is not sending fruit to schools at the moment. So if your child is attending school please could you send them with a piece of fruit as a snack. If you were able to add a basket of oranges or a bunch of bananas to your shop and send it in for those who might not have fruit with them that would be amazing. Thank you.

A few useful links

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A link to the scholastic read aloud day:

<https://www.scholastic.com/worldreadaloudday/>

A link to Children's Mental Health Week – 1st to 7th February:

https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/schools-and-youth-groups/?utm_source=Place2Be+sign+ups+2020&utm_campaign=991bcedbc8-CMHW_2021_Email3&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_acf77df294-991bcedbc8-220179044

A link to First News newspaper:

<https://subscribe.firstnews.co.uk/free-downloadable-issue/>

A link to the Lewisham Parents and Carers Forum newsletter:

<https://lewishamparentcarer.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=29916a1749b18584f7006447f&id=995ee00473&e=fa924faa40>

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to Melissa and Arabella, 4 and Wayne who was 5. Many happy returns to Sam, 8, Kayla, 9 and Samuel and Mia who were 10. Finally, to Isabella and Tomas, both 11. I hope you have all enjoyed your special day.

Please stay safe and well and contact us if you need us.

Yours truly

Mrs R A Dove