

WEEKLY NEWS

From the Headteacher: 5th January 2021

Dear Families and Friends

May I start by wishing you all a Happy New Year. Whilst the situation we find ourselves facing is certainly not the start we had hoped for 2021, we know that the only way forward in this trying time, is to work together to ensure our personal and collective safety, and to remember that brighter days will come.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff, parents/families and friends for their dedication and support which enabled us to retain a sense of normality for our children during the Autumn term.

School Closure

Since fully re-opening at the start of the school year in September 2020, we have worked hard to keep our children learning in school. However, the Government's announcement on 30th December to delay the opening of all primary schools in January signifies that it is not, at this current time, safe for our children to return as the risk of spreading COVID-19 is too great. While this news is upsetting for all of us, I know that we will continue to work together to ensure that our children are safe and continue to thrive.

With the increasing risk of COVID-19 in our community, Paxton Academy will remain closed to the majority of children, except for those of our key worker families and vulnerable children. If your child is not currently attending school and you believe that s/he is in one of these groups, please click on the link below, complete the form and we will contact you with an update.

<https://forms.gle/JcRv67Zu3vNAaXyN9>

Unfortunately, it is not yet clear when Paxton Academy will re-open for all children. However, once it is safe to do so, we will look forward to welcoming back all the children. In the meantime, we will continue to be in contact with you and thank you for your understanding during these difficult and challenging times.

Key Worker/Vulnerable Children

During this period of lockdown, staff will be in school everyday and continue to provide a school day filled with learning. For children who are in school, under one of the named categories of provision, please remember that school is open from **8:45am** and finishes at **3:15pm**.

Children who are currently attending school have been placed in the following three Bubbles and should be dropped off and collected at the following gates:

- **Reception and Year 1:** Grove Road
- **Years 2, 3 and 3/4 :** London Road
- **Years 4, 5 and 6 :** Grove Road

Youngstars Provision

Unfortunately for those children currently attending school, our wrap around provider, Youngstars, have informed us that they will not be able to provide **Breakfast Club and Afterschool Care** during this time. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Google Classroom

For children not attending in-school provision they are required to access remote learning from home via Google Classroom. As a school, we are confident that the majority of children and parents are now well skilled and experienced in accessing Google Classroom to complete tasks and submit work via this platform. It is **vital** that all children are accessing their learning and that all work is completed during this period of lock down. Please note: This is **not** an extended holiday and that every child should be washed, dressed in their uniform and ready to start learning at 9am.

Teachers will be providing feedback on work set each afternoon before 4pm and uploading new learning at the start of each day. Please ensure that you take full advantage and log on every day to complete the work set. Teachers will also phone home during each week to make contact and see if there is anything additional we can do to help.

In line with Government guidelines, children are provided with a daily timetable of lessons which they can log onto during the school day. Across the school, these will consist of a daily diet; a welcome from the class teacher, Phonics, Reading, Writing, Maths, PE and storytime read by either the classteacher or teaching assistant.

In School Support

If you have any questions or require any support, the school office will be open from **9am to 3:30pm**; Monday to Friday. Staff will do their best to answer your questions or ask a member of the staff team to contact you if they are unable to help.

Google Classroom Support

If you require any support with accessing Google Classroom, whether it be a forgotten password or are unable to access work, we are here to help. Please click on this link:

<https://forms.gle/Pirv1pczRTi6Qbrm9>

and complete the form, providing as much information as possible and we will contact you during 9am and 4:30pm.

Access To Loaned Devices

One of the biggest challenges with remote learning is juggling every day tasks and limited access to a device. This week, we have received a number of requests to loan devices to complete the online learning. At the moment, we are prioritising devices and some families have already been offered the loan of a device. If you would like to request a device please click this link:

<https://forms.gle/FQkRYsNAjrtXnQVj6>

Please note: At present we have a limited number of devices and will therefore will need to be prioritised for families with the greatest need.

Free School Meals

Thank you to all the families who have already completed the link regarding FSM. However, if you think your circumstances have changed and you may now be eligible for FSM, please check your eligibility using the link below.

<https://pps.lgfl.org.uk>

Please note you will need your National Insurance Number when submitting your details. If you are confirmed as eligible, please contact the office team as soon as possible as this will enable us to provide your family with more support during the lockdown.

COVID-19 Arrangements

Since September, we have had two confirmed cases of COVID-19. In order to continue to keep our school community safe, please ensure that you continue to follow the guidance and while at school, we will continue to follow the guidelines outlined in our Risk Management Plan.

Can we request that all families inform us if they are self-isolating as the result of being in contact with someone who has tested positive, so that we can provide advice and inform others accordingly. **If you or your child tests positive, please let us know immediately, especially if your child is attending school!**

In the meantime, if any member of your household displays any of the symptoms below:

- Lost their sense of taste or smell
- A high temperature (this is monitored on the school gates)
- A new continuous cough

Please ensure that you record the day, that the symptoms started and take a test. For more information on how to book a COVID-19 Test – please click the link:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-testschool>

Spring 2021 Dates:

Spring half term : Monday 15th – Friday 19th February:

Wednesday 31st March: Last day of Spring term

Nasal Flu Spray Vaccine

If your child has not received the flu vaccination this year and you would like them to have this protection, please contact the School Immunisation Service on 020 8274 6453 or email ch-tr.immunisationteam@nhs.net

Attendance



During the Autumn term 03/09/2020 to 17/12/2020, our rate of attendance for the school was 93.4% vs our target of 97.0%. Taking everything into consideration, 92 children still managed to achieve 100% attendance. What an Amazing achievement during such a challenging term. Well done children.

| Class | Attendance |
|---------------|--------------|
| Reception | 91.4% |
| Year 1 | 93.0% |
| Year 2 | 89.8% |
| Year 3/4 | 95.9% |
| Year 30 | 95.0% |
| Year 4 | 92.5% |
| Year 5 | 94.6% |
| Year 6 | 94.3% |
| Totals | 93.4% |