

Newsletter

Monday 20 April 2020

NEW NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Message for Parents/Carers

Welcome back to this strange summer term! We hope you are all well and are safe. It's been lovely to see some of the things the children have been doing over Easter, please see pictures below.



As we enter this term, you will have noticed that the teachers have been in touch via class dojo with a more structured approach to home schooling for our 'stay at home superheroes'. We hope that you find this useful. Obviously, this is not an ideal situation and we are aware that some parents will also be trying to juggle working from home as well as home schooling their children. If you have any problems with this, please let your class teachers know via dojo.

Currently we have no indication about when schools will be open, although there has been some unhelpful speculation in the press about when and how this will happen. We will continue to do what we are currently doing on class dojo for the foreseeable future and will endeavour to keep you updated should we hear anything from the Department for Education.

Please remember you can message teachers on Class dojo about any concerns and they will get back to you between the times of 9.00am – 3.30pm during week days. Key workers are still able to send their children into school so that they can continue to support the country in whichever way they do.

I cannot stress enough that we are all here for you. We all want to support you and to support our children to thrive while we wait for the crisis to pass – which it will.

However, we need to take this virus seriously. "If children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading". We need to stay within our family groups and stay away from vulnerable people by social distancing and this advice includes children being very sensible and social distancing from their friends which we know is going to be challenging for them.

We **S**how respect. We are **H**onest. We **I**nclude others. We **N**ever give up. We seek **E**xcellence in all we do.

Wear your uniform for home schooling day - 27 April!

A parent has contacted us to suggest getting the children to wear their school uniform at home to raise money for a good cause and we can think of no better cause to do this for presently than the NHS. If you would like your child to join in with this and wear their uniform at home we are suggesting next Monday (27 April) to do this, although if a different day suits you better that isn't a problem. We are suggested a donation of £2 and this will be added to Schoolmoney from Monday next week so that parents can contribute. We would love to receive any photos of your children doing this so that we can add them to the newsletter. If this would cause your child distress and confusion, please do not worry, they don't have to do it and you could still contribute if you so wish.

Free school meals

Parents that are entitled to free school meals (not universal free school meals) have been informed that they are entitled to a weekly family care package of food. Parents that are entitled to this must let the school know by emailing admin@milton-st-johns.tameside.sch.uk by 3.15pm each Wednesday should they require a care package the following Tuesday. If your circumstances have changed and you feel you may be entitled to free school meals please see the information below.

Children are entitled to receive free school meals if they or their parents or guardians receive any of the benefits below.

Universal Credit, provided they have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

Income Support

Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance

Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

The guarantee element of Pension Credit

Child Tax Credit, provided they are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by HMRC

Working Tax Credit run-out - paid 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Please visit <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/schoolmeals#apply> for further information



The world as we have known it, has changed; we are all finding life different and some of us are finding it difficult. Let us all remember, we are still one. We are still united; united in change, united in challenge and united in our school community. Please reach out to others if you need support.