

Newsletter

Monday 18 May 2020

NEW NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Phased return to opening

Thank you to everyone that has completed the survey about the phased return to opening school. We have had an amazing response with 177 completed! We really do appreciate it and it will help us with our planning.

We just want to reassure you that we do understand everyone's concerns during this difficult time and that you can only make a decision about whether to send your child into school based on the information given and your own current situation. We, of course, will do our utmost to make sure school is as safe as possible for the children, parents and staff, but need to be honest with parents that school will be very different to what we have been used to as we enter this next phase.

We will be consulting with staff, the LA, the diocese and other heads in the MCSP this week to try and plan the best possible solution to the return and will let you know our plans as soon as possible. Once our plans have been circulated with parents we will send out another survey to ascertain the exact number of children we will be expecting from the 8 June.

We can confirm though, at this stage, that Skools Out will not be open until the new academic year. This may/may not pose some difficulties with parents and therefore, wanted to give you advance notice.

We really are missing the children and seeing our Milton family so much but we are fully committed to supporting everyone to feel safe and secure as we move forward. Once again we really appreciate your patience during this uncertain time - thank you.

Video

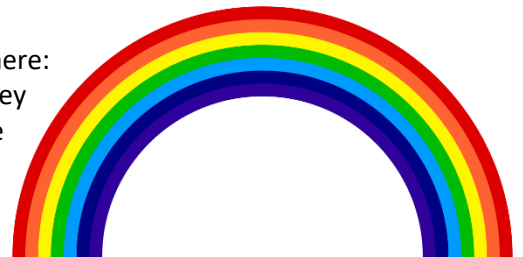
Thank you to everyone that sent in photographs for the video. It was so lovely to see the children. To view it, you can either find a link to it on our facebook page or through the website (look for the home learning pencil).

Home learning

We hope that home learning is going well. Work will not be set over the half term so the children can have a break. **Please be aware that Mr Copsey, Mr Parker, Mr Clarke, Mrs Fernley and Mrs Gerrard will not be accessing class dojo or answering messages on Wednesday this week. Miss Hurst, Mrs Smith and Miss Rodgers are unavailable on Thursday.**

Looking into the rainbow

Worship for Everyone has produced a video which can be found here: <https://worshipforeveryone.com/looking-to-the-rainbow> is a song that they have suggested that children at home and in school can learn. It would be lovely if you could show this to the children for them to learn so that we could produce our own video of the song. More details about what we will need will follow in further newsletters.



Mental Health Awareness Week

This week is Mental Health Awareness week. The theme for the week is Kindness. The Mental Health Foundation have produced lots of useful resources available which can be found here:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week>.

The Foundation also has resources to help people with Mental Health during the Covid 19 situation here:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/coronavirus>

Faith at home resources

Faith at Home is a national campaign that builds on the work of Growing Faith and Everyday Faith to support the faith development and pastoral care of children and young people. There are lots of resources and activities to do with your

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.

children at home. Click here to access them: <https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-action/faith-home/i-am-parent>

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.