

Newsletter

Friday 12 June 2020

NEW NEWSLETTER ITEMS

This newsletter replaces the one that would normally come out on Monday 15 June.

Phased opening update...

From the 15 June we welcome back a larger number of Key Worker children and hopefully this will be the start of getting our school community into some sort of new normal. Our aim is to settle the large number of key worker children that we have and then attempt to bring back other groups starting with year 6. As the Government are continuing to enforce the 2m social distance rule, we are only able to fit a maximum of ten children in each classroom (some smaller classrooms can only accommodate 8). With the volume of Key Worker children that we have (60 children) along with some of our vulnerable children and the Year 6 cohort, all of our classrooms and staff will be at full capacity. Unless the Government guidance changes, sadly we are unable to invite other year groups back safely. Despite the kind offers of using other spaces in the community, we do not have the staff to be able to facilitate this. However, we will still be continuing our home learning programme which we are constantly striving to improve. Unfortunately, as teachers are in class full time, we are unable to facilitate any live interaction with children that are working from home, which a number of parents have requested. We will, as always, make regular contact with individual families via dojo, email or phone to ensure the children are happy, safe and on track. If you have any concerns or are struggling to access the virtual home learning resources via Class Dojo, please contact us.

Despite the current restrictions, we are aiming to bring some of the fun events that normally take place this term into the virtual home learning platform, for example virtual sports day etc. More details about these events will follow in the coming weeks.

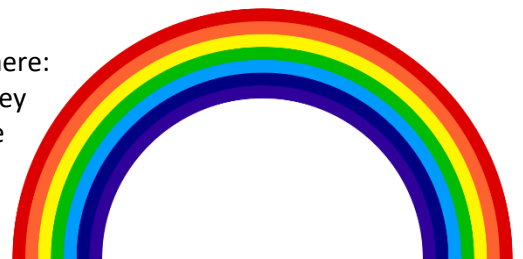
Again, we thank you for your patience, understanding and kindness during this difficult time. The safety and happiness of our children is paramount and in the forefront of our minds at all times. We have and will continue to work hard to ensure that all the children are still able to access our Milton community.

Key Worker Parents

Those Key Worker parents that have decided to continue to home school their children need to be aware that due to the large number of Key Worker children that we will be welcoming back on the 15 June, there may not be any places in the coming weeks should anyone change their mind. We also expect the children to be in school daily should they return, flexi days are not an option because continuity of learning is important for the children.

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.



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 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.

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 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.