



May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am sat here writing to you all wondering how we got to May so quickly! The world feels such a strange place at the moment it is hard to keep track of where we are. I'm sure you'll find the days start to feel very similar but in school they still feel remarkably busy. Good weather is definitely helping keep spirits lifted. The staff team remain closer than ever and we are supporting each other through these uncertain times. I know you will have been the same also with your friends and loved ones. We have 'checked in' with all of you now and the phone calls and emails have filled our hearts with warmth. We really do miss you all. Please find below some important updates and news.

COVID-19 Updates

I'm sure after the Prime Minister's statement on Sunday night there are lots of questions you have. Like yourselves, we have only just seen the announcement and at this stage, we have lots of questions that need clarification too. We are waiting to receive a clear explanation from the government as to what this means for our school, based on scientific evidence.

In the short term, for us in school, there is no change to the guidance. We will provide care for children who are vulnerable and children of parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response. The message is still that it is safer to stay at home.

We will need clear guidance to plan how it is possible to social distance in schools and keep our children, teachers and families safe. In addition, we will need to consider how we might start to phase groups of children returning and what this looks like.

Please be assured that nothing will change immediately; we will have time to plan for a safe future for our children and community; we will only reopen when we are fully prepared. Any plan to increase the number of children in school will need to be practicable and manageable.

We expect to receive further information from the DfE (Department for Education) in the coming days and weeks.

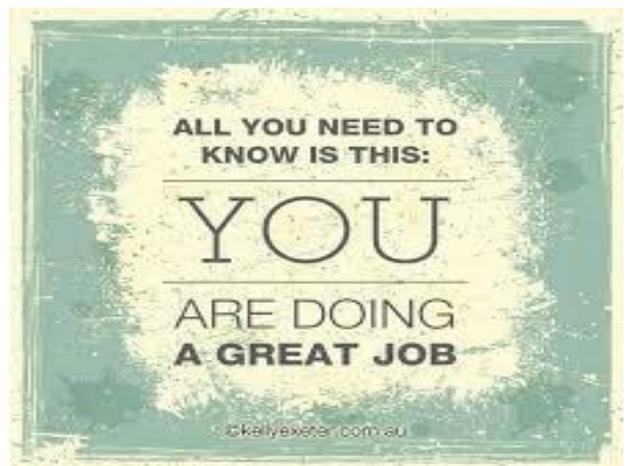
As always, we will keep you informed but for now, please try not to worry. Our plan for now is to continue to support each other in these very difficult and uncertain times.

Google Classroom

I absolutely love looking at your posts on Google classroom. I've been impressed with the work you have been completing and also how creative so many of you are being at home. Over the upcoming weeks we will continue to use this as the main way of communicating with your children and yourselves about home learning.

We fully anticipate using Google classroom for home learning in the future (once school is fully open) so it is important we become confident with it now. If you are having any problems with it please email your child's class teacher directly and we'll support you with this.

Please keep sharing your achievements and we will continue to celebrate your successes. We know this is a really tricky time for you all so please don't be hard on yourselves. You offering your child love and security at the moment is the MOST important thing you can do.



Lockdown poem

Maple class were set a home learning task to write their own lockdown poem. Below is Lucas Pike's amazing creation:

*We've been in lockdown since March 23rd
but every Thursday at 8pm our clapping can be heard
To thank the NHS who try to keep us safe
From the new coronavirus which could hurt us any day.*

*The children are all working from home,
Even going out is a no go zone.
No football, no cinema, no eating out,
We are certainly bored and that's without doubt!*

*Soon it will be ok,
Back to normal it will be.
Back to work, school and football,
And our families we can see.*



My Lighthouse

The children in the emergency school provision rose to the challenge to represent their favourite worship song though being creative. They produced this wonderful display and even got a mention in the Chester Diocese newsletter. We were so proud of them.



Free School Meals

If you are entitled to free school meals you should now be receiving your vouchers. If you are struggling with them, then please do not hesitate to contact us. Although it is a separate company that distributes them we will do all we can to help.



During these difficult times, more families may be entitled to free school meal vouchers. Please visit Stockport council's website to see if you are eligible: <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

Contact details

Important email addresses are:

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During these really tough times please know how much we miss you all and cannot wait for some form of normality to return - but it has to be safe. If we can do anything to support please do not hesitate to contact any of us – we are here for you.

I believe we will come out of this pandemic stronger and more united than ever before.

Be kind to yourselves, you are doing an amazing job.

Kind Regards

E Harding

Emma Harding

Acting Headteacher

 **STAY AT HOME**

PROTECT THE *NHS*

 **save lives**

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