



Whitehouse Newsletter

15th Jan 2021

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Thankyou

Staff are reporting to me how brilliantly everyone is engaging with remote learning at home and that doesn't happen by itself. They have reported how parents have been encouraging their children to attend live and recorded lessons and uploading their work on SeeSaw/Tapestry in such great volumes and with such enthusiasm, that the staff cant keep up with giving everyone immediate feedback on an individual basis- often working till late at night. They have also told me that children are responding to the feedback that they are giving and your children's work is improving because of it. Well done! Please bear with the staff if they are unable to respond to every single piece of work, but rest assured, they are seeing it and are 'bowled over' by your children's efforts. Thankyou to you all for working with us and adapting to remote learning so well. I have spoken to a few parents who are not comfortable using technology and we will happily speak to you- talk you through step by step, so that your children can access their learning. It is also good for their mental health to be able to see and connect with their friends and many of the timetabled sessions are to allow that to happen.

You will all have a class timetable for your children. We will be publishing the whole school timetables on our website – whitehouseprimary.org.uk – if you need to refresh yourselves.

Critical Workers/Vulnerable Children

Due to your job, your child has been offered a place in school. However, it must be emphasized that, if you are able to keep your child at home due to shift patterns, part time work etc you should do so. This is highlighted in the Government guidance. Please inform the office if you have any changing circumstances as these places are for those who really need it. Please can all families of children who are accessing school remember to ensure that your children do not mix with any other friends, families outside of school, unless you are in a support bubble with a single person. Contacts outside of school should be kept to a minimum to prevent the spread of the virus to any of our other children in school and the staff. Thankyou for your support.

The children in school are in three separate bubbles and their learning is supported by Teaching Assistants. We are trying to access the remote learning led by teaching staff whilst they are in school. This is working well, wifi permitting, but they might not complete or access everything for their year groups as we have multiple lessons to log onto at the same time.

Lunches for those in school will be hot lunches from next week. (Week 2 of the menu) Sandwiches are being replaced and will not be offered. Please inform school if your child would like a hot lunch asap. Thankyou.

Laptops.

We have loaned 34 out to our families and we have a small number left. If you need to loan a laptop or a 4G Router for those who have no internet available, please contact your childs' teacher or the school office. No one should be left behind.

Greggs Grant

We have had another successful bid won through the Greggs Foundation. This means that we will be able to buy products to support our families enduring hardship – whether through furlough, unemployment or job losses, to support their children. We planning to buy toiletries, tinned goods, sanitary products, soap powders etc to allow parents to come and take what they need. This will not happen immediately, but we will send a text message when it is ready. Thankyou to Mrs Morris for her successful bid.

Food Hampers/Vouchers

We have applied to change from the emergency food hampers that we issue on a weekly basis to the supermarket vouchers via EdenRed. This is a decision we made this week and the system will take a while to set up.. Please don't contact the office about this as when they are ready, we will contact you. Thankyou.

Support.

Any families that need support regarding domestic abuse – please dial 999 if you are in immediate danger. Remember that Harbour will support you – call 03000 20 25 25 (24 hours) or email info@myharbour.org.uk
Have a lovely weekend everyone- keep safe and keep smiling!