



Shortlanesend School

Newsletter



5th February 2021

Spring Term

Dear Parent/Carer

Weather Warning

Next week sees a chance of snow and ice for Cornwall being forecast. Especially through Tuesday and Wednesday. Should the forecast prove accurate, we may have to make a decision on whether the school can remain open; this decision will be made following reviews of a range of factors including the safety of the site and the risks of travel. We will aim to make any decision as swiftly as we can and communicate through a range of media. If you are using the Vulnerable and Key Worker Provison please be aware of the situation and that the need may arise for you to collect your children quickly from the school site, or find alternative provision.

School Update

A reminder that **we finish for half term next Thursday**. Friday 12th February is an Aspire training day for staff, and our school is closed. Please ensure that you all try to take time to rest and relax after the last demanding few weeks. Your support for your child's education and your appreciation of the situation has been very much appreciated.

We await the government's release of their plans for schools being able to accept more children, which we believe will be announced either during half-term or on Monday 22nd February. We expect little change until the date of 8th March. As of now, we do not know any further information than you, concerning which year groups schools will be directed to invite back first, should the government decide to initiate a phased return. 8th March remains a month away, and so many factors could change between where we are now and will be then. What does not change is our continued dedication to support our children and families emotionally and academically through these challenging times.

Below is the link to our home learning page which contains links to videos which aim to troubleshoot logging on and accessing the online learning platforms. There are also recorded stories from staff and other usual links. Remember that we are here to help, guide and support you in many ways.

[Welcome to Shortlanesend School \(eschools.co.uk\)](https://eschools.co.uk)

Lateral Flow Testing – A Reminder

Staff are now set into a pattern of twice weekly testing - Sundays and Wednesdays.

Be very clear, if staff report a positive result on any LFT, **bubbles may have to close with very little notice**.

In-school provision

We **remain at full capacity** for this provision, and continue to echo the strong government and local authority message **that this service is only to be used by parents when there is no other alternative for your child to be home.**

If you are working from home, the safest place for your child is there, with you.

Thank you to those parents who continue to negotiate changes to their work pattern with their employer and promptly inform the school they no longer needed a booked place. This is greatly appreciated.

Children's (and Adult's) Mental Health

This week was Children's Mental Health Week, however, every week is Children's (and Adults) Mental Health week. **It is always a good time to talk.** The children were encouraged to become more confident in expressing themselves and their feelings through their learning. Remember it is okay not to feel okay, especially through these challenging times. If you as a parent need to talk to a friendly voice, we are here. We may not have all the answers, but we will always listen.

Internet Safety Day

Next Tuesday is Internet Safety Day; with increased usage currently through remote learning, it is more important than ever to be aware of the risks. The links below offer some very up to date and useful information to compliment the lessons that children will follow during the week:

[Home - Safer Internet Day](#)

[Protecting children from online abuse | NSPCC Learning](#)

Thank you to The Parish Council

This week we received a cheque from The Parish Council to use to purchase further technology to aid remote learning in the short term, and ICT provision across the school in the long term. We wish to pass on our sincerest gratitude to the council for this thoughtful and kind gesture. It will have a very positive and lasting impact on our school

New Development

The parental consultation regarding our exciting proposed new development for our school remains live. Below is a link to the area on our school website. Please take the time to have a look at the information and plans. The consultation will last for another 4 weeks.

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Please, have a restful weekend and stay safe and well.

