



Shortlanesend School

Newsletter



12th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

School Update:

It has been fantastic to hear the vibrant sounds of voices, laughter and learning which has permeated throughout our school this week. The children have returned brilliantly, many as if only a weekend had passed since last being here. This is a credit to them and you as parents for instilling them with confidence and adaptability.

Thank you to everyone for the awareness of our routines and the restrictions that we are having to keep in place. Please continue to stick to your child's drop-off and collection times and follow the one-way system around school, being extra careful when exiting through the carpark. Also, keep as much distance between yourself and others and wear a mask unless you are medically unable. All these things help protect our school community.

We are always of a positive mindset at Shortlanesend School, however, we are also realistic about the situation; we truly hope to remain open until the end of the school year and provide constant and consistent in-school education for all our children, but we do remain at the mercy of factors out of our control concerning the infection rates locally and nationally. Please help our community further by remembering the government advice for us all to follow as we journey along the road-map to recovery together.

Online Safety:

With the current lock-down situation leading to potential increased usage of the internet for learning and socializing, we would like to remind parents that the website below is invaluable for advice concerning the sadly very real risks posed to children online; along with simple and useful tips and strategies for parents to increase safety and understanding.

[Parents and Carers | Safer Internet Centre](#)

Friday 19th and 26th March:

The next two Fridays will see the school raise awareness and hopefully some money for two very worthy causes:

Comic Relief: Next Friday (**19th March**) our school like many others will be aiming to raise smiles, awareness and money for Comic Relief. This is a very well-established charity – known to us all. This year, as well as being a **non-uniform day**, we are asking children and staff to raise a giggle throughout the school by attending with **funny hair** or **a silly hat**, if they wish. Hair can be temporarily dyed, (difficult for Mr Wilson and Mr Easter) a wig worn, or an outfit completed with a striking or unusual hat.

Epilepsy Awareness Day: Friday **26th March** is Epilepsy Awareness Day. As this day is also known as Purple Day, we're asking for the children to come into school wearing something purple. This cause is particularly significant to one of our families. and possibly more of you. If you would like to find out more about epilepsy, there are some excellent videos for adults and children at:

www.epilepsysociety.org.uk

We are very aware of the timing of these events being close together, so any money raised across the days will be split between the two causes. Please do not feel you need to donate on both days.

World Book Day

Well done to everyone who accepted Mrs Ashley's Extreme Reading Challenge. There was a very high standard of entries. Congratulations to those who were awarded a prize. All children have now been issued with their £1 voucher.

Uniform:

The rails of donated uniform items are once again available in the foyer of the school. If you wish to check for items – it is one person at a time, and you need to use the hand gel please. There are several items which are 'coming into season' – summer dresses, cardigans and shorts. We also have a basket of shoes. Thank you for everyone who has donated items.

Parent Pay Accounts:

Please can parents check their parent pay accounts, especially those who use the wrap around care service. As previously mentioned in newsletters, Aspire Finance Team constantly monitor accounts for increasing debts. If your account shows that money is owing, please take steps to reduce or clear the balance. If you are struggling to do this, please arrange to chat to Mr Wilson.

School Lunches:

A polite request from Claire and Dawn in our kitchen, please can parents check with their children carefully what meals they have chosen? This week we have seen a couple of children upset with the choices made for their lunches.

Hoodies:

Mrs Holroyd has collected more orders this week for school hoodies. These can be paid for on Parent Pay please.

Hearing Test - Reminder:

There will be a Hearing Screening Test for all **Year 1** children on **15th March**. All children will be tested unless parents inform the school in advance of this date that they do not wish their child checked.

Drop-off and collection arrangements – Reminder

<u>Class:</u>	<u>Arrival Time</u>	<u>Where?</u>	<u>Departure Time</u>	<u>Where?</u>
5 – Mr Easter	8:30-8:40	Corridor – Door nearest classroom	3:00	Corridor – Door nearest classroom
4 – Miss Eddison	8:30-8:40	Classroom - Side door	3:00	Classroom - Side door
3 – Mrs Ashley	8:40-8:50	Class Door	3:10	Class Door
2 – Miss Adler	8:40-8:50	Class Door	3:10	Class Door
1 – Mrs Lewis/Mrs Stanhope	8:50	Through outside area	3:10	Playground

- Staggered drop off and collection times based on class
- 1-way directional system
- An adult will be at the main gate entrance welcoming the children and supporting with the direction of movement.
- **One adult per family** will accompany their child – unfortunately, no parent or carer will be able to enter the building
- **No child or adult should gather on the school site at any time**
- Children will enter their classrooms via their external classroom door and will immediately wash their hands or use hand sanitizer.
- For collection, the gates will be open at 14:55. Do not to arrive before 14:55 as this would result in congestion
- Siblings to be dropped off/collected at earliest time
- To support the safe environment, **parents must adhere to the collection and drop off times**

NHS Advice – A reminder

The NHS reports that the three main symptoms of Corona Virus to be watchful for are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus, get a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get the test result – only leave your home to have a test. Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get the result.

Dates

Spring Term:

The term is scheduled to finish on **Thursday 1st April**.

Summer Term:

The Summer term is planned to start on **Monday 19th April**. There is a bank holiday on **Monday 3rd May** and we break for half term on **Friday 28th May**. We return to school on **Tuesday 8th June**. The final day of the term and the year will be **Friday 23rd July** (this day will finish at **1:30**).

Have a restful weekend.