

'Be safe, be kind. Listen and think a lot. Be your best!'



The Perryfields Post

EASTER BREAK

Perryfields Infant School

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Dear Parents / Carers.

Firstly, and most importantly, I hope that you are all staying safe and healthy. I send my very best to all those in our community who are unwell or self-isolating. This is a very difficult and unsettling time for everyone and I am grateful for all the support being offered from within the school community. Thank you for supporting the governments #stayathome #savelives.

It is unprecedented that schools would be closed, especially with no fixed date for when they will reopen. However, we will continue to follow the advice of the government and Public Health England as our families' health is the most important consideration at this time. We must prepare that this is now moving into the longer term period. The emergency school provision remains in place for children of our key workers who really have no safe alternative and I am grateful for all the staff who are supporting this.

If your child was eligible for Pupil Premium support then you should already have received a link to Sainsbury's vouchers for this initial 4 week period. The government has just announced its voucher scheme which will give you more access to other shopping outlets. You should expect the school to be in contact within the next 2 weeks. If your circumstances have changed, especially in light of the current economic situation and you now feel that your child might be entitled to Pupil Premium support then please email the school on office@perryfields-inf.essex.sch.uk. If you receive a SCAM email asking you for your bank details in regard to Free School Meal Vouchers, please DO NOT respond and delete it immediately.

School, in whatever form will continue and I am delighted that my staff have worked tirelessly to ensure that there is work being set and communicated on the school website. I am also grateful for the parental commitment from home. However, I totally recognise that this is not without its issues and I think that we all need to catch our breath as we come into the Easter school holidays. I believe that this is a time for families, teachers and children to regroup and refresh and my teachers will not be setting 'lessons' during this period. I would suggest that we all try and take some positives from the situation, enjoy family time (at home), encourage children to take up a hobby, go camping in the garden, focus on their physical fitness or enjoy reading a book.

As a school we continue to be available to help/answer any questions you may have. If you have any urgent questions or would like a member of the team to contact you please email the school on admin@perryfields-inf.essex.sch.uk. Due to staffing rotas we are unable to provide an immediate response unless there is a safeguarding issue. If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact the school immediately where I will get in touch with you straight away. If you would like to specifically speak to a class teacher, the school Senco or myself, please mention this in your email and we will respond as soon as possible.

School nurse

I just wanted to remind you that the School Nurse services and support are still available during this time. If you are feeling vulnerable and require support or would like to discuss any concerns that you have then you are able to contact the support line on 0300 247 0014. You can also access their website which has links to useful resources https://essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk/ They also have a FB page which has useful tips/resources on—Chelmsford Child and Family Wellbeing.

Report Cards

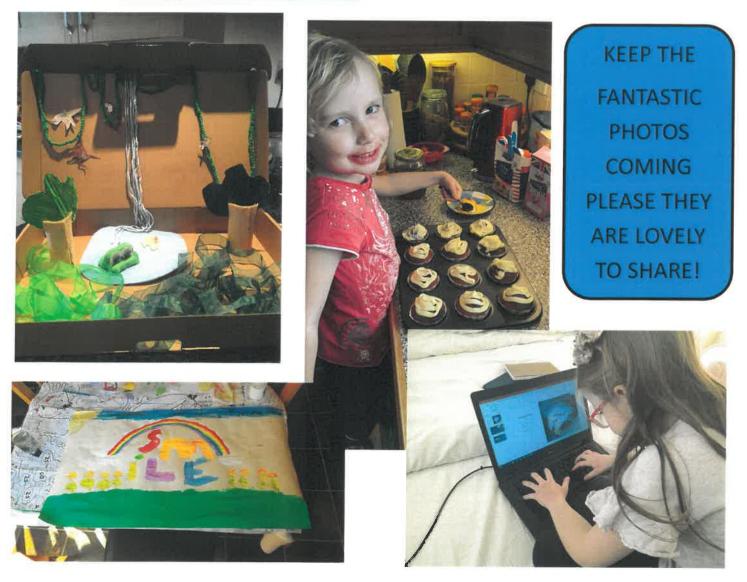
Due to the sudden closure of all schools we were unable to hold our normal parents evenings. With this in mind I have asked the teaching team to complete and extend the normal report cards that are given out at this time. These will give you a good indication of where your child was academically before the school closed. They will also give you some Next Steps for your child to work on which I would suggest could be done at home during this unknown time of school closure. These will be posted to you over the next two weeks.

Fantastic Photos

These are unprecedented times and we are all finding our way to ensure that our children can continue to access the best learning resources.

I will reiterate that I believe in these anxious times, we want our children to be prepared to return to full time school healthy, both physically and mentally, capable of independent learning, having learnt some new skills and having been inspired to learn something that will support their future life. When we return to school, I can assure you that we will endeavour to ensure that they all pick up from where they were; we just need in this period to retain a good routine, interest in learning but more importantly positive mental and physical health.

It has been fantastic to see so many wonderful photographs of children's learning and fun activities from home, which are now up on the school website. Please continue to share these with the school community by emailing them to admin@perryfields-inf.essex.sch.uk







A few educational websites to help with home learning:

DK find out

https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/?fbclid=lwAR2wJdpSJSelTf4do6aPhff8A3tAktnmpaxqZbkgudD49l71ep8-sjXmrac

Activities and quizzes

Twinkl

https://www.twinkl.co.uk This is more for printouts and usually at a fee but they are offering a month of free access to parents in the event of school closures

BBC learning

<u>HTTP://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/coursesearch/</u> This site is older no longer updated and yet there is so much still available, from language learning to BBC bite-size for revision. No license required except the content on BBC iPlayer. Future learn.

Mystery science

https://mysteryscience.com Free science lessons

National geographic kids

https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/ Activities and guizzes for younger children.

Keep Smiling

I know it's been an unusual time for all of us as none of us are used to staying at home for long period of time, but you are all doing a fab job of keeping yourselves and your family safe and also trying hard to keep up with your learning.

I am sure that one day, when this is all over, we will look back and remember the good times we spent together as a family.

Take care.

Amanda Reid