

Pilgrim Primary Academy

Headteacher: Mrs L Meek (BA Hons, PGCE)

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5th February 2021

Newsletter

Dear parents and carers,

Another busy few weeks for us all as we continue to navigate our way through this current national lockdown. Although schools are **not now returning back to school straight after half term** (it will be March 8th at the earliest) the roll out of the vaccine programme gives us all some hope of life returning back to normal in the future.

It is still unclear when staff who work in schools will be vaccinated against coronavirus. However, for the last 2 weeks staff at Pilgrim have been taking part in a programme of **Lateral Flow Testing** twice a week. Whilst this is not the full coronavirus test, Lateral Flow Testing detects the likely presence of the coronavirus in the body and it does give a good indication of likely coronavirus infection. All staff who tested have returned negative tests over the last few weeks which is good news for everyone.

Parent and Carer Support Session

I don't know about you but I think this lockdown feels much harder than the last one. You are all doing a great job at home supporting the children but it is not easy for you, we know. In the last few weeks, we have had many phone calls from families asking for advice and support with many aspects of home learning, behaviour management, getting into good learning routines, etc.

So, we are offering a **Parents and Carer Support 'Surgery'** for parents/carers next week on **Wednesday 10th February from 2.00 - 3.00pm**. This is a very informal virtual session for you to drop in and ask questions, have a chat or maybe just listen to some top tips on surviving home schooling! The following staff will be hosting the session:

Mrs Gale (our Special Needs Co-ordinator)

Mrs Forgan (Lower Phase Leader and Remote Learning leader)

Mrs Marshall (Pupil and Family Welfare)

Mrs Harris (Parent Support Advisor)

So, if you want to join the session, please email Mrs Forgan at chiefowl@ppsonline.org who will send out invites to a Google Meeting 10 minutes before the start. The idea is to grab a cuppa and join in with as much or as little of the conversation as you want. If this session is useful then we will run further sessions after half term.

Parent and Carer Survey - How are we doing?

We would love your thoughts and feedback about the remote education that we are providing. **Please, please spend 5 minutes clicking on the link below to complete our survey.** There are not many questions and all your feedback will help us continue to improve our offer for you and your child. Thank you in advance!

Pilgrim Parent and Carer Survey February 2021

<https://forms.gle/DxTT6RHoyEJmzx548>

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Half Term FSM Vouchers - The Winter Grant Scheme

During the half term week only, FSM vouchers will be provided by Hawk Select as part of the Winter Grant Scheme (not Edenred who have been providing the vouchers during term time). This is the same company who provided the vouchers over the Christmas holiday period. At the start of next week, we will be sending families who are entitled to FSM an email with links to the voucher codes for half term week.

Follow us on Social Media!

There has been such fantastic learning going on at home and at school that we can't help but show off! Keep sending in pictures of all your home activities (by email or Google Classroom) - we love to see what the children have been up to and all their great learning. We are going to be posting much more on Facebook and Twitter from now on so that you can all see and celebrate the great stuff going on across our school community! We will be posting more to our learning area of the website too. Please don't forget to follow our social media posts on:

FaceBook: [Pilgrim Primary Academy](#)

Twitter: [@Pilgrim_School](#)

And finally, a reminder that next week's Fun Friday event is **'Pilgrim's Got Talent'**!

So please dust off those dancing shoes, brush up on those magic tricks and keep practising those lyrics in the mirror.

Mrs Meek