

PARENT BULLETIN - Friday 15th May 2020



Dear Parents/Carer,

This has been an interesting week for us all in light of new government guidance on relaxing the lockdown. It has been great to hear from many of you during welfare calls this week that your children have been enjoying getting out of the house a little more and meeting up with friends in a socially distant way. I would encourage you to continue to take up these opportunities where possible as it is so important for children's mental health.

With regards to the reopening of schools, I would like to re-confirm that there is no immediate change to the closure of schools for the majority of pupils. We have taken the time to digest the government guidance carefully and have been working closely with colleagues in other schools to plan next steps. We will be sharing more detail with you early next week. You can currently read more government guidance for parents and carers [here](#).

Ms Wood

Parent Voice

Annual Parent Survey - Reminder

A reminder to please complete [this survey](#) to share your views about our school by **the end of half term (Friday 29th May)**. This is an important way for us to gather feedback from parents/carers and make comparisons between years. We ask you to try to reflect on the **year as a whole** rather than just the recent period of partial closure.

Relationship & Sex Education Policy

We have drafted a new Relationships and Sex Education Policy for 2020/21 and are seeking feedback from parents and carers. [You can read the policy here](#). If you have any comments or questions about the policy, please email headteacher@theswanschool.org.uk

Curriculum

Key Workers

A reminder that school remains open to the children of key workers. If you are a key worker and you now need to send your child to school, please let us know as we would be pleased to support your family.

Half Term

There will be no work set during the half term week (Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May). We will, however, be sharing some activity suggestions to help to provide some structure to the week.

Knowledge Organisers

We have posted home knowledge organisers for each subject. These should have reached home by now, if you have not received one, can you please kindly email headteacher@theswanschool.org.uk. Knowledge organisers are a great summary of each subject topic and will help children to complete work and catch up on any learning gaps.

Enrichment

The Swan (Audio)Book Club

A reminder that our current book is *Robinson Crusoe* by Daniel Defoe and chosen by Edward Thomas (7H). Please find the book at this link:

https://stories.audible.com/pdp/B002UZLIN6?ref=adbl_ent_anon_sc_pdp_pc_0. We will aim to discuss this book via a virtual Google Hangout meeting on Wednesday 20th May at 4pm. Please make sure your child emails me to request an invitation to the Hangout if they have not already joined Book Club. Mrs Hinze.

Short Story Competition - 4 Swan students Highly Commended!

Congratulations to Alex James, Edward Thomas, Bella Skaer and Rosie Joyce, who submitted their short stories to a short story competition themed 'Journeys'. All of them won a Highly Commended award, which is a fantastic achievement! The judge, Dr Tessa Roynon, said: "The overall standard was really high. Each Swan student's story had something really distinctive and commendable about it. Please could you forward my congratulations. They did really well to get all this together in the middle of lockdown." Well done Alex, Edward, Bella and Rosie! Mrs Hinze

Wellbeing

Please find an information sheet about how to talk to your child about mental health [here](#). This sheet goes through some tips for starting the conversation about mental health with your child. At The Swan we know mental health is just as important as physical health, especially during trying times like these. Please reach out to Ms Walton if you have questions or concerns about mental health.

All previous resources shared via the bulletin can be found in this [folder](#)

Other

Eid (provisionally 23rd May)

We are aware that some children will be celebrating Eid can we please kindly ask that you let us know via office@theswanschool.org.uk or on [01865 416070](tel:01865416070) if your child will be celebrating and will therefore not be submitting work for that day. We can then ensure that all teaching staff are made aware of this.

Free School Meals

Free School Meals vouchers - for those in receipt of free school meals, you will now have received four voucher codes. Please can you let us know if this is not the case. Please remember the eCode should be redeemed as soon as you receive it for an eCard. The eCard will then be valid for at least a year, depending on which supermarket you chose. Please do not hesitate to contact us via office@theswanschool.org.uk or on [01865 416070](tel:01865416070) should you have any queries. We are here to help.

School Nurse - Sun Safety

I know we've had a colder snap, but the sunshine will return, and with most of us having greater access to being outside in gardens during the warm weather, we just need to remind ourselves of the importance of sun safety and caring for our skin.

[Teenage Cancer Trust](#) has some interesting material and guidance, and [NHS Choices](#) some more general advice on how to safely manage sun exposure.

It is important that we have some exposure to the UVB rays in the sunlight to enable [vitamin D](#) production so equally, don't hibernate in your rooms. Strike a healthy balance!

Access to School Health Nurse

Even though your children may not be coming into school, you still have access to the School Nursing service and everything that it offers. If your child would like a confidential appointment via phone, video chat or a walk and talk, please email or text me at caroline.smith@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk 07717661485.

Key Dates:

- Bank Holiday (Monday 25th May) - The school will be closed on the bank holiday, which means we will not be offering provisional care for key worker children, and there will be no work set for children.
- Half Term - (25th May to 29th May) We plan to remain open for the children of key workers. Please let us know if your requirements have changed during this week. School will be closed on the bank holiday - Monday 25th May.
- Staff Inset Days - please be aware that Monday 6th July and Friday 10th July are currently planned as staff inset days.