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Mereworth Community Primary School
"Lasting learning experiences for life"

Email: office@mereworth.kent.sch.uk
www.mereworth.kent.sch.uk

Start of Term 3 2021 for all pupils learning from home and at school

Monday 4th January 2021

Dear Parents,

Firstly I would like to wish you and your family a very happy new year. Unfortunately the start of the Spring Term 2021 will be affected by the changes that were announced by the government on 30th December 2020.

Class Teachers will be managing and overseeing learning for all pupils whether they are at school or at home during this time. As you can appreciate, there has been a lot of planning and work involved in operating teaching and learning under these circumstances as we have approximately 60 children returning to school tomorrow.

Children not returning to school on Tuesday 5th January:

First thing tomorrow morning, your child's Class Teacher will email you via the class email to explain the learning activities in place for Week 1. We are waiting to hear what provision will be put in place for those families entitled to free school meals. If you require a food parcel for your child, this can be arranged via our school catering company Edwards & Ward and you will need to contact the school office: office@mereworth.kent.sch.uk

Children who are returning to school on Tuesday 5th January:

All children need to arrive at their previously allocated gate and time:

Year Group / Family	Drop off	Collection	Area of school
Year R	8.40-8.50am	3.00-3.10pm	EYFS gate/EYFS playground area
Year 1	8.50-9.00am	3.10-3.20pm	Main gate/small pedestrian gate for Year 1 outside area
Year 2	8.40-8.50am	3.00-3.10pm	Main gate/front playground
Year 3	8.50-9.00am	3.10-3.20pm	Main gate/front playground
Year 4	8.40-8.50am	3.00-3.10pm	Staff car park designated area
Year 5	8.50-9.00am	3.10-3.20pm	Staff car park designated area
Year 6	8.30-8.40am	3.15-3.20pm	Staff car park designated area / walk home to church
FAMILY - siblings	If you have more than one child in the school, after dropping off your first child please go to the designated waiting area for your next child		
If you are a blue badge holder, please drop off and collect your child/ren at 8.30am and 3.20pm.			

Children will continue to learn in their own class bubble with staff allocated to each year group. All children attending school will be able to have a hot school lunch. **Every day, during morning registration, they will make their choice from two available options.** The menu for the first two weeks of Term 3 is attached. Please pay in advance via Scopay as usual.

Blended Learning:

This is the word used for the work provided by the school when a child or group of children are unable to attend school due to circumstances related to Covid-19. In this letter I will just focus on our plans under the government's current 'contingency framework' which is due to be reviewed before Monday 18th January. The government have set an expectation that children who are of primary school age are to access education for 3 hours a day whilst unable to be in school due to circumstances related to Covid-19.

Tomorrow morning you will receive an email from the class teacher containing a 'Home Learning' document as well as all of the other resources you will need for the week. The document contains everything you need for the main Maths and English session. We are continuing to use the White Rose website for the main Maths sessions; there will be a link to the videos for support and guidance and a separate attachment with accompanying worksheets for each day.

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Additionally, each morning you will receive a further email between 8.25am and 8.35am, containing a link to a video of the class teacher teaching and guiding the children through their starter activities for Maths and English. This video will have four parts to it including an introduction to the day, Maths starter, SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) starter for KS2 and a Phonics or SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) starter for KS1 as well as a story for your child to enjoy.

So that the class teacher can keep a record of your child's engagement in their home learning and to assess your child's attainment and progress we would like parents to:

- Have regular contact with the class teacher via the class email.
- Email work to the class teacher (this could be done daily or weekly) or give the child their work to bring into school on their return.
- Support learning where possible.

In order to provide you with feedback on your child's learning the class teacher may use a range of strategies including:

- Providing whole class feedback on the recorded video lessons.
- Commenting on your child's work in an email.
- Saving all work sent and using this to plan the child's next steps in learning.
- Checking your child's understanding of key concepts on their return to school.
- Setting quizzes and assessments on online platforms for the children to engage with.

Class teachers will be checking their class email between 8:00am and 4:30pm every weekday, however you may not receive an immediate response as teachers are still working with children in school. Please note that there will not be a class teacher letter/topic sheet sent at the start of this term due to the current learning arrangements in place.

Please contact the school office or the class teacher email address if you have any questions or need support in any way. We want to ensure that we support each and every family in the school and appreciate that these are very difficult and challenging times for many families across the school community. At the heart of everything we do, we want to ensure that we provide the best care, support and education for every child and therefore want parents to seek support from us if this is needed.

Additional parent information for Term 3:

- The flu immunisations that were due to take place on Friday 8th January for Year R, Year 3 and children that missed the previous vaccination date have been **cancelled** by the health trust. We will email you the contact details for the health trust so that you can arrange to re-book.
- Please find attached an **updated** copy of '**Covid-19 related pupil absence - What to do if...**' guidance sheet.
- Please find attached an **updated** copy of the **Parent Protocol sheet**. Please read this thoroughly and follow all the procedures in place, as we need the support of everyone in order to minimise the risk of infection and safeguard the entire school community.
- **Our School Risk Assessment** has been **updated** and is available via the school website: <http://mereworth.kent.sch.uk/reopening-sept-2020/> All school procedures are in line with government expectations and we ask that all parents support these procedures at all times, to help keep all members of the school community safe.

We will continue to keep parents updated and informed of any new information or guidance as we receive it.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Lavelle
Head Teacher