



Good Shepherd Newsletter

Friday 8th January 2021

Happy New Year

I hope you managed to have a restful Christmas despite not being with your extended families. We have certainly started 2021 in a way that we were not expecting when I sent my last email on the last day of term!

We are open to children of critical workers and vulnerable children only. Those children who are attending school are joining the Zooms and Google Classroom work and are getting exactly the same provision as those learning from home.

The strong message from the Government and Public Health is that the safest place to be is at home, so please only request a place if your children cannot stay at home, as this is the best way to keep your children and my staff safe.



Well done everyone

Remember parents, you're doing a great job juggling work, childcare, home learning as well as the normal round of cooking, cleaning and laundry.

Whilst we want all children to be joining the online lessons and uploading work every day, if it all gets too much, your children won't fall behind if they miss out on one day!



Mobile data

If you don't have broadband at home, there is a scheme which temporarily increases data allowances for mobile phone users on certain networks. This is so that children can access remote education.

Schools, trusts and local authorities can request mobile data increases for children and young people who:

- Do not have fixed broadband at home
- Cannot afford additional data for their devices
- Are experiencing disruption to their face-to-face education

Children with access to a mobile phone on one of the following networks might be able to benefit:

Three, Virgin Mobile, EE, Tesco Mobile, Sky Mobile, Smarty

Please email the office if you would like us to apply for a temporary increase of mobile data for you.

Games consoles

Do you have an Xbox or PS4 at home? If so, you can use these to connect to Google Classroom. The link below shows you what to do (thank you to Mrs Bolton for investigating how this works) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CiNzN8QxIRI>

The BBC will show curriculum-based programmes on TV from Monday.

The primary programmes, which will be broadcast on CBBC from 09:00 every day, will include BBC Live Lessons and BBC Bitesize Daily as well as Our School, Celebrity Supply Teacher, Horrible Histories and Operation Ouch.

Bitesize Daily primary and secondary will also air every day on the red button as well as episodes being available on demand on iPlayer.

Respect

Responsibility

Determination

Positivity

Teamwork

Croydon Children's Centres

Children's Centres offer services for parents to be and families with children under 5. They provide social and practical support to all new parents and families with children up to 5 years of age. There are a range of activities for new parents, promoting babies physical development and providing support to parents. As children grow, centres offer family activities and adult learning opportunities. They are also able to signpost families to additional support and services.

Currently centres are providing a programme of online activities to support baby and child development as well as family support and advice, including-

- * Virtual interactive bookable sessions
- * Pre-recorded activities
- * Home learning packs
- * Family support sessions either via telephone/ virtually or face to face appointments
- * Housing and benefit welfare advice
- * Onward referral and signposting

Face to face sessions for young parents and baby massage can be accessed at New Addington and Crosfield Children's Centres.

Contact the Children's Centre by clicking on the link <https://new.croydon.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/find-support/support-directory/best-start-service-childrens-centres>

Home learning

Thank you for bearing with us with any technical glitches we have had this week, it's been a learning curve for everyone both at school and at home!

From next week, we will endeavour to have the whole day's work on Google Classroom at 8:30am each day and a recurring link for the Zoom virtual lessons which will make things easier for you.

Mr Britto has put together a very helpful guide on how to upload work each day which is attached and will also be uploaded onto Google Classroom so your children can read through it.



Keeping active

Joe Wicks is restarting his online PE lessons from next week at 9am every Monday, Wednesday and Friday on YouTube to help families keep fit during lockdown. Don't worry if your child is in Y5 or Y6 and this clashes with your Zoom lesson as they can watch Joe later on in the day.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, how about trying one of these:

- ◆ Make up your own family workout at home
- ◆ Go for a walk
- ◆ Complete 10 press ups, 10 star jumps and repeat 4 times
- ◆ Put on some music and dance for 10 minutes
- ◆ Make up a dance routine

Good news story

I received a lovely email from a member of the public today who had been reading the request on BBC news for laptops for families who need them for home schooling. She has two laptops which she is generously donating to Good Shepherd which we will loan to two families on our laptop waiting list. The news is full of doom and gloom at the moment but it is wonderful that there is so much kindness out there too.

A prayer for your family

Dear God,

May your goodness and love be with me all my life and may your house be my home as long as I live. Amen



If you need to contact the office, please email if possible rather than telephoning as this is easier when staff are working from home.

office@goodshepherd.croydon.sch.uk

*Have a good weekend
and stay safe,*

Mrs Day