



GUSTON

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 15th January 2021 (Page 1/2)

**STAY
HOME
SAVE
LIVES**

School Places

Last Friday evening the Government updated the guidance for those parents that are considered Critical to the COVID-19 response.

It now clearly states that if you can keep your child at home, even if you are working from home, then you should.

Our numbers are creeping up, week on week, which defeats the rationale for closing schools for the majority.

Please consider carefully if you really need to send your child to school. I know it can be difficult, juggling things at home but it is safer for you and the school community if you can. Part time schooling is available. Thank you for your continued support and co-operation.

Remote Learning

Remote learning is a challenge for all involved. For children, it is tough to work at home with all the distractions that come with being there. Parents are stretched trying to juggle life, work and schooling and Teachers are juggling being in school supporting pupils of Critical workers whilst supporting pupils and families accessing learning from home too.

I am so proud of how we have all responded to this unsettling period; each trying our best to remember each other's contexts and working together for the best interests of our children. All we can do is our best.

As I explained last week, our remote learning offer will develop over time. However, so far we have been able to offer:

- Daily Zoom catch ups.
- Live Phonic session via zoom for KS1
- Live 1:1 precision teaching
- Live targeted group sessions
- Live reading session with whole class and groups
- Pre-recorded teaching videos
- Paper copies supplied with feedback offered by CT
- Regular feedback on work either uploaded or emailed in

In line with DfE guidance, we are keeping a register of the frequency of pupils that are zooming, logging in to their dashboard, uploading work and accessing other platforms such as Purple Mash and TT rock stars.

I.T. Support

We are currently working with families that have identified themselves as needing addition IT support, either devices or 4G routers. We have ordered our allocation of DfE laptops - sadly it is not as many as the Government would have you believe. We have also received a donation of computer towers from a parent that we are upgrading so these can be lent to families most in need too. Thank you very much Mr Humphrey-Smith!

If you do not have a device and your child is struggling to access work please let us know and we will do all we can to support you.

Remote Learning Policy

We have reviewed our Remote Learning Policy and have attached it to this email. I would like to highlight Section 2.8 which shares the expectations of parents and pupils during this time. It is summarised below:

Parents need to:

- Read and respond to emails
- Let us know when their child is ill and unable to access the learning.
- Ask for help when they need it
- Ensure appropriate backgrounds are used in live sessions.

Pupils need to:

- Complete the task set for their class as best they can
- Ask for help with their learning, when they need it
- Behave appropriately and respectfully through live sessions

Term 3

Week 3

Monday 18th January 2021
Jellyfish and Dolphins Half
Day Forest School

Tuesday 19th January

Wed 20th January

Thursday 21st January

Friday 22nd January

Week 4

Monday 25th January

Tuesday 26th January

Wed 27th January

Thursday 28th January

Friday 29th January

Birthdays the Week

Happy Birthday to:
Oliver C,
Neol &
Jude

We hope you all have



wonderful days.



Lockdown Guidance

You cannot leave your home to meet socially with anyone you do not live with or are not in a support bubble with (if you are legally permitted to form one).

You may exercise on your own, with one other person, or with your household or support bubble. This should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.

You cannot meet other people you do not live with, or have not formed a support bubble with, unless for a permitted reason.

Stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household.

Sadly, there have been reports that children are playing outside and mixing with children from other households. This is not allowed.

If we are to ever return to some level of normal, we all need to be doing our bit and living in line with the guidelines set out. We are working so hard to try and protect our school and its community and we would really appreciate your support in this.

Thank you, Mrs Day

School Meal Provision



I would just like to reassure you that despite what you may have seen in the press regarding the poor quality of food parcels for vulnerable families, we have been very well supported by Whole School Meals, a local catering company. They continue to provide hot meals for those pupils in schools and have also provided excellent food parcels to eligible families.

Booking for School Places

If you are a **critical worker** and have **no alternative** childcare provision while you are at work, please email the school office on admin@guston.kent.sch.uk to book a place for the week commencing Monday, 25.01.21 by **Weds (20th) at 5pm.**

Requests must include evidence of Critical Worker status from your employer, the days you require and any order for hot meals. Thank you.

Inland Border Force Facility

As many of you are aware, there are plans to create an Inland Boarder Facility just outside of Dover near to the villages of Guston and Whitfield.

Further details of the proposals, including an information booklet for the White Cliffs site, can be viewed at

www.inlandborderfacilities.uk, where feedback can be provided from Wednesday 13th January until Tuesday 2nd February 2021.

BLUE PETER ON YOUTUBE



Blue Peter is the longest running kids TV show in the world and they are uploading videos to YouTube that are suitable for 5-11 year olds. They have world record breaking challenges, arts and crafts, environmental videos, cooking and baking how tos, inspirational films, gaming, celebrity appearances, dance routines and music performances. They also feature ways of getting a Blue Peter badge, behind the scenes footage and extra content about the presenters Adam, Lindsey, Mwaksy, Richie and Henry the Blue Peter dog.

In you are interested please subscribe to <https://www.youtube.com/bluepeter> - (it's obviously completely free to subscribe!) and don't forget to watch the live programme on CBBC at 5.00pm every week, or on BBC iPlayer.