

Shepherd Primary School

Friday Letter

Friday 19th March 2021

Dear Parents,

Covid-19 Important Information

<p>Covid testing – parental engagement</p>	<p>In order to continue to do all that we can to keep our school community safe, I implore parents to book a test if their child has any covid symptoms. I do understand that some parents may have mixed feelings about the covid tests, but they are stopping the spread of covid-19, by ensuring that people testing positive, along with their close contacts, isolate for 10 days.</p> <p>If you refuse to engage with the government testing programme when your child has covid symptoms, your child will need to remain at home for 10 days, self-isolating. Whilst this means your child is at home in case they do indeed have covid, it prevents us from being able to ask close contacts to self-isolate, so would not stop the spread of covid in your child’s class, if indeed your child did have covid.</p> <p>Please support the school and our whole school community by following government guidelines and engaging with the testing programme if your child has covid symptoms. We are doing everything we can in school to keep your children safe, but we need your support as well. Thank you.</p>
<p>Lateral Flow Testing (LFT)</p>	<p>The LFT kits that you can use at home, as parents, are only for use on people who are asymptomatic. Whether you as a parent, or your child, have any of the covid symptoms, you <u>must</u> book a PCR laboratory test (either by booking online to visit a testing site, or by ordering a laboratory test to be delivered to you at home).</p>
<p>Easter holiday covid-19 reporting</p>	<p>If your child or anyone in your household develops covid symptoms over Easter, please follow the government guidelines and book a PCR test.</p> <p>If your child tests positive for covid-19 over Easter, please immediately email me at emergency@shepherd.herts.sch.uk , as I will need to complete a risk assessment to confirm whether I need to ask any children or staff to self-isolate as a close contact of someone who has tested positive. Thank you.</p>



Red Nose Day Fundraising

Thank you to all those children who wore red clothes to school today in exchange for a £1 donation to Red Nose day. So far we have collected £224.70 (from cash donations and via School Gateway). If you have not yet managed to pay your donation, please do so via School Gateway – it will remain open for donations until the end of next week. Thank you.

Supermarket Vouchers for FSM families for the Easter Holidays and May Half Term

Parents of children in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) will receive an email from Edenred (the same company we used during the periods of school closure) next week, providing a link to £45 of supermarket vouchers per FSM child – this is £30 for the 2 week Easter holidays and £15 for May half term.



Easter Holidays

Next Friday (26th March) we finish for the Easter holidays. Staggered pick up times will be as follows:

- 1.30pm: Reception and Year 1
- 1.35pm: Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4
- 1.40pm: Year 5 and Year 6

School will reopen on Monday 12th April for the summer term.

School Uniform

A reminder that as outlined in letters during the autumn term, the new school 'zoodie' is an additional layer of clothing for the children to wear to keep them warm during colder weather, as classroom windows are open to allow good ventilation to help prevent the spread of germs.

Please remember that the 'zoodie' has not replaced our normal school uniform cardigans and jumpers. As the weather improves and children wear just one layer to school on top of their polo shirts/shirts, this must be their school jumper and cardigan, not their 'zoodie'.

From after Easter, staff will only allow children to wear their 'zoodies' at breaktime, lunchtime and during PE lessons – they will not be able to wear them in class, and should wear their normal school cardigan/jumper instead.



School Dinners

Please make sure you order your child's meals on School Grid, by 9.30am each day.

Week commencing	Children in Reception and Years 1-3	Children in Years 4-6
22 nd March	Hot or cold school dinners	Cold school dinners
12 th April	Cold school dinners	Hot or cold school dinners
19 th April	Hot or cold school dinners	Cold school dinners
26 th April	Cold school dinners	Hot or cold school dinners
3 rd May	Hot or cold school dinners	Cold school dinners
10 th May	Cold school dinners	Hot or cold school dinners
17 th May	Hot or cold school dinners	Cold school dinners
24 th May	Cold school dinners	Hot or cold school dinners

Yours sincerely

Mrs Claire Foad
Headteacher