

Shepherd Primary School

Friday Letter

Friday 26th March 2021

Dear Parents

Thank you Mrs Freuchen

I wanted to start my Friday Letter this week by saying a huge thank you to Mrs Freuchen, who has been Deputy Head during Miss Whiteman's year long maternity leave. I don't think any of us could possibly have predicted what the last twelve months might have been like, so I wanted to extend the most enormous thank you to Mrs Freuchen for being the most fantastic Deputy Head over the last year. THANK YOU, Mrs Freuchen!



Miss Whiteman is set to return to Shepherd after the Easter holidays, so we look forward to welcoming her back at the start of next term.

Take a Minute to Reflect



On Tuesday, children in Reception to Year 6 joined many people across the country in the Marie Curie 'Take a Minute to Reflect', one minute silence. The children were encouraged to think about the challenges they have overcome in the last year, since school was first closed due to the pandemic on Friday 20th March 2020. We were very proud of the children for approaching this so maturely. It's hard to believe that a whole year has passed – we know that some families within our own school community have lost loved ones during the course of the last year and many families have had to overcome their own personal challenges, so we also remembered you on this day of reflection.

Goodbye Miss Rumbold



Today we say goodbye to Miss Rumbold, our Year 1 Teaching Assistant, who is moving to a new post at a local Nursery. This morning we presented Miss Rumbold with a beautiful bouquet of flowers from the children, along with very special cards from Year 1 and Year 2. We have really enjoyed having Miss Rumbold as part of our school team and we wish her the very best of luck for the future.



World Book Day Rock Painting

Mrs Freuchen and I have really enjoyed looking at all the beautiful World Book Day rocks that the children painted and brought into school. We have decided to display these in the school library, with each child's name next to their special rock. If your child still has their rock at home, please do send it in to school to be added to the display.



Support from the Rickmansworth Food Bank

Accompanying this letter is a letter from the Rickmansworth Food bank, offering help and support for families in receipt of Free School Meals, as well as any other families that need help over the Easter holidays.

Easter holiday covid-19 reporting

If your child or anyone in your household develops covid symptoms over Easter, please follow the government guidelines and book a PCR test. Please remember that 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 must 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).

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.

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
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



Happy Easter

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very happy Easter break. I hope that you all manage to find time to relax and enjoy the sunshine that we are promised. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 12th April for a fun-filled Summer term!

Yours sincerely

Mrs Claire Foad
Headteacher