



MELLOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Company Number 7737398



24th April 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

Since the 'Lockdown' announcement, so much has happened and we have endeavoured to work here at Mellor Primary to respond as quickly as possible to the vast number of DfE directives and guidance. Most importantly, Ms. Parkin and I have had contact with every family in our school community. We felt that it was of great importance to see how everyone was doing.

Whilst we are all facing the same common problem, each family has a different context and therefore has had to find their own rhythm to deal with the challenge.

It has been an absolute privilege having those conversations with you. At the same time the Mellor staff have been working through our next steps to support our children and families.

After careful consideration, this is what we aim to achieve:

1. Continue to develop the bank of online resources so that you can organise your day to best suit your family's needs. We have also added links to the lessons developed by the Oak National Academy, BBC Bitesize website and White Rose Maths. The DfE have endorsed these sites this week.
2. Each class will have a blog on Purple Mash (under the 'Sharing' tab) where there is an opportunity for you to upload and share the work, projects and activities your children have done and where our staff can then make comment. Please see the additional attached helpful guides about Purple Mash.
3. The Purple Mash blog will also be an area in which staff, where possible, will be preparing videos to share with your children such as reading a story.

In addition to these developments we are keen to keep in contact in a more direct way. Subsequently we will be undertaking the following:

1. The Mellor staff will contact families by telephone. We will begin this as soon as possible. When the relevant class teacher calls the number may show as withheld or with no caller ID. We will aim to call every family over a two week period.
2. Week commencing Monday 27th April, we would like to host a Zoom meeting with each class. Zoom was chosen as this was the most popular choice in our Survey. All security elements will be set and each teacher, alongside another member of staff, will host the meeting.

The times and Meeting ID's will be communicated via the school text system. It would be very helpful if an adult at home could join in as well.

It will be lovely to see as many of you as possible joining in the online platform; to see your children's' faces and engage with our teachers.



In all of these developments we recognise that not all families will want to use the resources suggested or engage in the face to face opportunities. Please don't feel under pressure to do so, as we understand that our families are all different and we respect your individual position.

There is much speculation on such matters as return dates, structures and pattern for return as well as transition. As yet, we can only plan for what we know and therefore we will update you with any key information as soon as possible.

To end this Heads Up, we would like to bring you the lovely news that Miss Tweedie and her partner Connor welcomed Eva Pearl Docherty to the world on the 30th April.

I know that many members of the Mellor community and our children, fought hard to maintain the 375 bus service. It is great to know this vital link will remain in action and support the community.

On behalf of the Mellor Team thank you for your continued understanding during this period.

With best wishes



J E Nicholson

Some additional information that may be of help:

Child safety guidance

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) has launched a national campaign #AccidentFreeAvoidA&E.

The website has useful resources and practical tips for everyone to stay safe and well in and around the home and garden including a dedicated Keeping kids safe hub focusing on for children and young people. Some of the resources may be useful.

<https://www.rosipa.com/Campaigns-Fundraising/Current/Coronavirus>

If you are worried about a sick or unwell child the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health has produced a useful poster for parents and carers providing advice and information where to seek help.

https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2020-04/covid19_advice_for_parents_when_child_unwell_or_injured_poster.pdf

If at any time you feel that additional support is needed for you or your family, please see the link below. It will give you access to information and support. There is a helpful section on Well being and mental health.

www.stockport.gov.uk