



KESTREL MEAD

PRIMARY ACADEMY

Infant Site: Maidenwell Avenue, LE5 1TG

Junior Site: Mundesley Road, LE5 1WE



Good morning all,

I am writing this on the morning following the very clear shutdown message from the Prime Minister last night. It is a scary and confusing time. I am also aware that you have had quite a bit of communication from school and it can feel overwhelming and confusing. So I have tried to summarise it into one letter for you.

To summarise, this is what the school has as an offer in the coming weeks;

- Daily story time and Kestrel Mead meet up at 3.15 from Monday to Friday. Search with your smart TV or device – **YouTube Kestrel Mead**.
- A bank of workout videos with Joe Tailby, a choreographed dance routine with Miss Elliot and some workouts sure to make you sweat with Miss Bickley will be added to our YouTube channel over the coming week or so. In the meantime = **Joe Wicks everyday at 9am** is a great way to start the day.
- We have provided a **SAMPLE** timetable. Please do not feel like you have to use this, but it is there if anyone would like the structure to your day. It is also very important for children and parents to see that there are large pockets in the day when it is more than OK for adults to be doing their adult jobs and chores. The children have been building resilience and independence at school, they can apply this really well if you set them off on something.
- All children either took their CPG workbooks or they were collected from school on Thursday or Friday. The last ones were hand delivered on Friday to all those in the local area. These are for the children to work through. There will be some direction on activities, but they can also be completed at your own pace.
- 11am is a perfect time to get the children set up and listening to **David Walliams** himself reading his wonderful books. The link is through his website. He is sure to raise a smile and allow you to get set for lunch!

Class Dojo;

- We have made phone calls to all families that were not connected to Dojo. We have tried over several days and left messages to those still not connected. If you pick up that message and you are unsure, you can send an email to office@kestrel-tmet.uk and someone will give you a call the next day.
- Every day at 9.30am, after your morning exercise, one member of the year group team will post the challenges for the day. These activities are for ALL children in that year group.
- Between 2pm and 3pm every day, the teachers will go online and approve your posts and comment back on the wonderful work they are seeing 😊
- If you have ANY questions, please message your child's teacher directly. Please be patient with a response, as our staff still need to provide childcare for key and critical workers. This means that some days they are in school. They also may be unwell themselves or caring for their families who are unwell. I also know that many staff have signed up to the volunteer programmes. If you do not have a response in 24 hours, please message another member of the year group team who will get back to you.
- Miss Bickley is making a video for us today for me to share showing anyone how to upload their work, if they are unsure. See our YouTube channel for more on this later this afternoon.

What to do if you have a concern;

- The school office will be shut from Wednesday, but the office team will be redirecting emails. Please email if you have any questions or concerns and someone will get back to you.
- There will be a designated safeguarding phone line linked to the school phone line. If you have a safeguarding concern, you can call into school and it will be redirected to one of our safeguarding leads in school.
- All children eligible for Free School Meals should have had a Tesco voucher hand delivered on Friday for this week. Mrs Davis is working very hard with TMET to come up with a longer term solution and will be in touch soon.

The staff are having daily Teams video conferencing meetings and are sharing good ideas and any issues that arise about school work. We are also doing this to stay connected and looking out for each other's wellbeing during this difficult time. Please make sure that you are doing the same. If you are feeling unhappy or overwhelmed, please pick up the phone and give someone you trust a call. If this doesn't feel possible, there are many wonderful phone lines for you to call including Samaritans on 116 123 for free. It is good to talk.

It is great seeing all that you are doing, you are like a wonderful team of remote teachers and I want to say to you all that you are doing a wonderful job. 😊 From one parent to another I want to finish with a final thought. If our children come out of this with an innocent, oblivious understanding of what feels like an extended holiday, then we have all been hugely successful. Enjoy this rare gift of time that we have been granted together. Make family memories that they will treasure forever.

Take care, stay home. I'll see you on Class dojo 😊

Mrs Z Simpson

Principal