

TELFORD INFANT SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,
I hope that you and your families are keeping safe and well.

Yesterday Boris Johnson announced that schools in England will not be able to open to all children after the half term break but indicated that they could begin to return from 8th March. The Telford Infant Team sincerely hopes that it will be considered safe for us to reopen to all children very soon and once we receive further information we shall start making preparations to make full school reopening as safe and smooth as possible. Please be aware that schools are notified of the government's plans for education the same time as yourselves.

This is such a difficult time for us all and it is very important that everyone is kind to themselves and each other. Self care has never been more important and I hope you and your families are all well and coping with whatever circumstances you are facing.

Best wishes,
Mrs Siân Oustayiannis - Headteacher

ASSEMBLIES

Please look out for pre-recorded assemblies which are posted in MEMOS on Tapestry three times a week:

- *Start and end of the week – Mrs Oustayiannis
- *Mid-week – Ms Roberts

There are already 6 assemblies for your child to watch if you haven't accessed them already.

28th January 2021



FEBRUARY HALF TERM

Earlier this week the Department for Education confirmed the following:

February half-term

Schools will close as usual over February half-term and are not expected to remain open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers during that week.

We are sharing this information with you now as these arrangements are different from those in place during the first Lockdown in the Spring when school remained open during the Easter holidays and May half term to provide childcare for children of keyworkers and vulnerable children.

Warwickshire Family Information Service provides details of clubs for critical workers who need to arrange childcare for their children during Half Term – see below.

FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE



The Warwickshire Family Information Service is brilliant for pointing you in the right direction if you need advice.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies>

They have a Facebook page too:

<https://www.facebook.com/WarwickshireFIS>

You can sign up for their newsletter here:

<https://mailchi.mp/warwickshire/familyinfoservice>

LATERAL FLOW TESTING FOR SCHOOL STAFF



Staff in primary phase schools have now been invited to self-administer Lateral Flow Device tests for COVID-19 which give results in 30 minutes. Please note that this is for staff only, not pupils.

This is not mandatory but the majority of staff in our school have decided to participate and will be testing at home twice a week on Wednesdays and Sundays and reporting their results to Test and Trace as well as to the school. On Monday we received our first delivery of tests and testing started yesterday.

The tests are for staff who are asymptomatic. Those displaying the top 3 COVID-19 symptoms – cough, temperature and/or loss of taste or smell – will continue to self isolate immediately and undertake a full PCR test.

If a member of staff tests positive in a Lateral Flow Test then the bubble within which they are working will close whilst the staff member undertakes and waits for the results of a full PCR test – approximately 48 hours. If they then receive a negative result then the bubble can reopen. If it is positive then the bubble will need to continue to self isolate, as advised by Public Health England.

KEYWORKERS

The government's list of critical workers was extended in the Autumn. This coupled with the fact that the guidance still states that only one parent needs to have critical worker status has resulted in significantly more children attending schools nationally during this lockdown than the first – this is also the case at Telford Infants.

The school follows the guidance rigorously and remains open to those children the government states have the right to a place.

It is important that you know that the numbers of children currently attending are high. If you are using a keyworker place but are in a position to keep your child at home we ask that you do not unnecessarily:

- *Put your child and your own household at risk
- *Put others at risk – including:
 - a) vulnerable children attending school
 - b) children of keyworkers who absolutely need to attend school so that their parents can respond to the COVID-19 crisis
 - c) school staff
 - d) the wider school community, including all the families of the above
- *Put your child's bubble at greater risk of closing due to a positive case of COVID-19 which would result in self isolation for those in their bubble for up to 10 days leaving many critical workers without child care.

Please inform the school office as soon as possible if you can keep your child at home and we shall ensure remote learning arrangements are set up for your child.

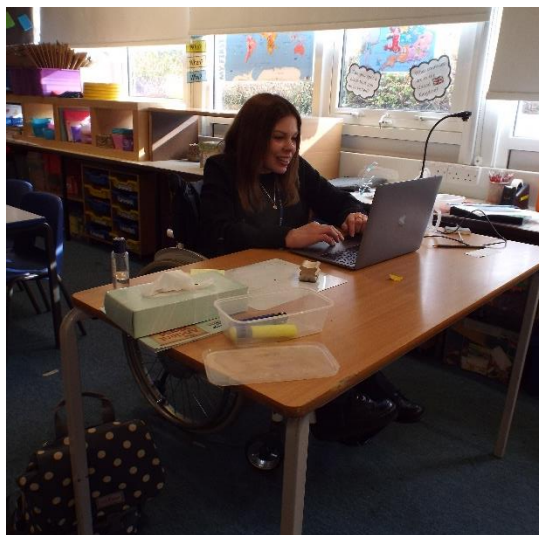
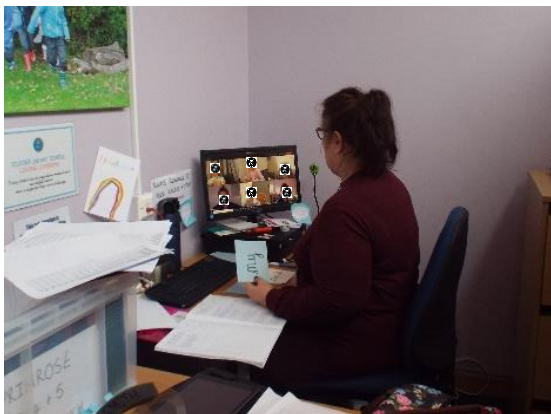
We understand that there are families who must send their child to school in order to perform their critical roles but government advice to keyworker families is very clear: ***'Parents and carers that are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can.'***

WHAT DOES REMOTE LEARNING LOOK LIKE IN SCHOOL?

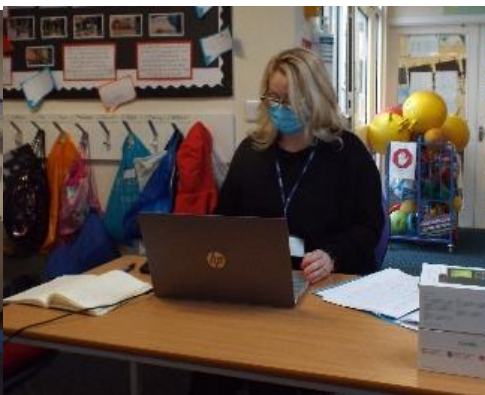
Our staff are working exceptionally hard to ensure that we are providing every child with the best learning experience we possibly can under the current circumstances. We have enjoyed looking at the amazing learning that is being uploaded onto the children's Tapestry account and thought you might like to see what it looks like from our end!

We haven't been able to capture everyone at their work but hope that these photos will give you a flavour of what provision of remote learning looks like in school.

LIVE LESSONS



REMOTE LEARNING TEAMS





DIARY DATES

Watch this space!

TERM DATES – SPRING AND SUMMER TERMS 2021

Spring Term 2021

Half Term: Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February

Term Ends: Thursday 1st April

Summer Term 2021

Term Starts: Monday 19th April

Bank Holiday (School closed): Monday 3rd May

Half Term: Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June

Term Ends: Wednesday 21st July

2021-2022

Term dates for 2021-2022 can be found on the WCC website:

<https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-1023-348>

Three further INSET days for 2021-22 will be added to this calendar and shared with parents shortly.
