



NEWSLETTER

06/01/21

Happy New Year!

What a start to 2021! It's only Wednesday and it's already been a tricky week for all of us with one day back in school; the announcement of another national lockdown that includes school closures; yesterday when staff were sorting and delivering learning packs and setting up online learning while managing key worker and vulnerable children in school; pupils and parents getting back to learning today – what a rollercoaster!

What I am learning about the West Street School Community is that we are a resilient and tough bunch who roll with these changes to do the best we can for the children we live and work with – **WELL DONE TO ALL CHILDREN, PARENTS & STAFF!**

Learning Packs

Learning Packs were all delivered to your homes yesterday. Teachers expect this first learning pack to last for this week and next week. The work in the packs links to the online learning on Google Classroom that teachers have started delivering today. On Friday 15th January in the afternoon, staff will deliver an additional learning pack to all children for the following two weeks.

Free School Meal vouchers

We are just sorting out ordering, printing and organising free school meal vouchers. During this lockdown, free school meal vouchers will be available to eligible parents every two weeks. This means you will receive vouchers worth £30 for every child. We will send a text to parents when the vouchers are ready. We would appreciate parents collecting the vouchers from the school office on this occasion. If you unable to do this then we will do our best to deliver them to you when we can. The next £30 worth of vouchers will be delivered to your home with your child's additional learning pack on Friday 15th January in the afternoon.

Online Learning at home

The majority of West Street children are learning from home. This means that teachers' priority is delivering online learning using Google Classroom throughout the school day. Teachers will provide online learning every day during the week. Parents can contact teachers via Google Classroom when they have a question or need some help. Parents can also contact teachers using their email addresses. In line with government guidance teachers will spend most of their time working from home.

Online Learning in school

Teams of teaching assistants are supporting children with online learning in school. Children are working in two bubbles – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 children are in one bubble while all Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 children are in a second bubble. The two bubbles are working in separate classrooms with different teams of staff. The staff will be supporting children with their learning using both the learning packs and online learning.

Key Worker children and Vulnerable children in school need to:

- **Wear school uniform**
- **Arrive at 9.00am and pick up at 3.00pm - Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 bubble on Key Stage 1 yard; Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 bubble on Key Stage 2 yard**

In school provision is limited to Key Worker children and Vulnerable children. We are following the government's definition of Vulnerable children so these children are easy for us to identify.

In order to plan our provision for Key Worker children please can you complete the Key Worker information and return by email as soon as possible to

head@weststreet.lancs.sch.uk

This will help us to plan staffing needed to work with Key Worker and Vulnerable children in school.

Other Staff available in school

The school office will be manned every morning. There will always be at least one member of the Leadership Team (Miss. Watson, Mrs. Duerden, Mrs. Gupta) in school every day. Mrs. Gupta will be in school every Monday & Tuesday. Mrs. Peake will be working in school every Monday & Tuesday. Mrs. Bretherton will be working in school every Wednesday & Thursday.

We will continue to.....

- **Stay in touch with you**
- **Give your children dojo rewards, send home silver and gold texts, celebrate Learners of the Week**
- **Send you the weekly newsletter by email**
- **Do our very best for your child!**

Meanwhile.....

- **Be patient**
- **Minimise stress and look after yourself – don't let home learning be a huge deal**
- **Only you can control how home learning works in your home because you are in charge of it**
- **Acknowledge that you are doing the best you can do**

Stay safe and take care!

Miss. Watson

