

Honeybourne Primary Academy

School Street,
Honeybourne,
Worcestershire,
WR11 7PJ



Headteacher: Mrs Elaine D Huntington, B.Ed., MA, NPQH

Dear Parents,

14th April 2020

HEADTEACHER UPDATE - COVID-19

Happy Easter to you all. I sincerely hope you and your families have enjoyed the lovely warm weather over the Easter Weekend. Whilst the social distancing and working from home measures are in place, the rest of our existence is difficult. At least the sun makes people feel better!

I am writing to update you on the school place situation, home learning and the curriculum for the Summer Term, Free School Meals and general support available.

School Places - As advised, if you are able to keep your children safely at home, then they should stay at home.

- Places will be continued for children of key workers, where one or the other parent is not able to work from home.
- Places should be applied for using the form online, and for those parents who have already applied using the form, PLEASE EMAIL head@honeybourne.worcs.sch.uk or office@honeybourne.worcs.sch.uk to let me know which days and times you need EACH WEEK. Places are planned for on the basis of how many and which children we have in school so your help in confirming your need for a school place is really important.
- If your situation changes, please also email the above addresses and let me or Mrs Cowley know so that we can plan accordingly.

Home Learning and the Curriculum for Summer Term

- At the time of writing, we do not have any timescale for when the measures in place currently will end.
- Home learning tasks will continue to be posted on the school website under your child's class. These are to give you learning tasks and ideas about how you can plan your home learning.

☎ Tel: 01386 830 462 📠 Fax: 01386 830462 💻 email: office@honeybourne.worcs.sch.uk

🌐 www.honeybourneschoolacademy.co.uk



Honeybourne Primary Academy is a mixed community school for 4-11 year old pupils and Nursery for 2-4 year olds.

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- We are currently working on how we can make the home learning easier for you and how we can support the structure for you and your children. Please look at the website regularly to see further information.
- The summer term curriculum will be based on maths, English and a theme for other areas of the curriculum, plus a few other ideas. We are in the process of finalising those themes and it is likely to be the same or similar theme across the school, to make topic learning, when you have more than one child, easier to manage.

Free School Meals

- We heard that the newer, government scheme, run by Edenred, has not been very quick at getting the vouchers to you. However, we understand that there has been a big overhaul over the weekend and these vouchers are now getting to you.
- Parent entitled to, and have claimed for, income related free school meals will receive vouchers each week, to the value of £15 per child, via email. Please let us know via the school email system if you are struggling to get these vouchers.
- From week commencing 20th April, we will also take delivery of breakfast packs for all children entitled to free school meals. These will consist of a 5 pack of bagels, a pack of cereal (where available) and a tin of baked beans. We will let you know when they are delivered and can be collected from school. If you are unable to leave home, due to self-isolating, please let me or Mrs Cowley know by email and I will arrange to deliver them to you.
- Anyone now finding themselves in financial hardship due to loss of income, can apply for free school meals for their children. Please see last week's newsletter for how to do this.

General support and guidance

- There is a new tab on our website, under Parents and the Community, called Advice for parents. This will be populated with updates such as these plus other guidance for parents working at home and managing home learning. These are in addition to the specific class pages the staff will be updating.
- The Honeybourne Community Response Team are working hard to see that no-one locally is struggling to get basic supplies, prescriptions etc or suffering with feeling alone. A friendly phone call or picture from a child can go a long way. Please let me know via the school email, or use the number given out on the school newsletters, if you are struggling with any aspect of the current situation. If we can help, we will.

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Finally, as you are reading this, you must have accessed our website. However, at the time of writing, there were very few views of some important documents I have posted or the staff have posted. The school website is now our main communication with parents and as such it is vitally important that parents use it regularly so that we can support you and your child's learning and well-being, alongside you. Please tell your friends and encourage them to use the website and go on regularly to see any updates. Your role is so important during this time, in securing good educational values for your child and keeping their learning going. We all know this is a big ask of parents, however, everyone is having to make sacrifices, find resources we didn't know we had and be strong to make the best of the situation we are faced with. Whilst it is difficult, please heed the advice, keep your children at home, stay home unless you have to go out for food shopping, work (if you cannot work at home) and for exercise, once a day, and then keep a social distance of at least 2 meters. These measures are designed to, and are working to, keep you safe, protect our NHS and save lives.

Thank you for your time and commitment to making a success of a difficult situation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to follow up on any aspect of your child or family learning and well-being or if you wish to speak in confidence about any worries you are facing as a result of the current situation.

Be strong and keep smiling, we will get through this together.



Elaine Huntington
HEADTEACHER

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