

SWECET Primary Schools

Keep-In-Touch

Issue Nineteen

12.02.21



Developing our people

Nurturing our differences

Aspiring for excellence

Dear Parents and Carers,

Half term begins next Monday and children will not be required to use Google Classroom or to attend school for the critical worker provision. We hope that you are able to spend some time together to relax and get outside if the weather allows this.

We are aware that we have not had an opportunity to meet with you this academic year to discuss your child's progress. We provided a written report in the autumn term but are keen to speak to you shortly after half term to discuss your child's learning. The current climate presents a challenge when teachers are teaching both in school and providing remote learning and so we will be contacting every family by telephone after the half term and details are set out below.

Have a lovely half term.

Ms Pumfrey and the Leadership Teams in our schools



School/Parent consultations – Thursday 25th February 2021

We have carefully considered the benefits of using an online video tool to offer a meeting about your child, his/her progress and how s/he is doing overall during this challenging period. However, we are aware of the challenges this presents in terms of IT requirements for families and also that this requires appointments to be made.

Therefore, we will be telephoning all remote learning families on Thursday 25th February to talk about how your child is doing. Families of those children who are attending school will be called during the week beginning 22nd February, as we need to work around the full time teaching commitment of these school staff.

On Thursday 25th February, there will not be live lessons on Google Classroom due to the telephone contact being made but work will be posted for children to complete during the day. We are going to try to make it a screen-free day as far as possible and work will be explained in good time. Teachers will respond to any queries on Friday, as they will not be online on Thursday whilst they are calling.

If we call you and you cannot answer, we will call you back later in the day. If need be, staff will make follow up calls over the several days thereafter.



THURROCK School Sports Partnership: Virtual Challenge: THE ROAD TO TOKYO

The current total of miles travelled by each school is:

CSM	113
DPS	143.15
SCP	114

Tokyo is 5,928 miles away, so can you help your school reach Tokyo by the time the Olympic Games start on Friday 23rd July? You can use any of the following modes of travel; walking, running, cycling or scootering.



To take part all you need to do is send the following information to the email below for your school:

CSMtokyo@swecet.org

DPStokyo@swecet.org

SCPtokyo@swecet.org

And we will collate the weekly totals and submit them to the SSP:

1. Name
2. Year Group
3. Evidence of distance travelled (screenshot/picture) – apps for recording Running activity: MapMyRun, Strava, Runtastic, Garmin.

The SSP will be keeping a running total on their Road to Tokyo website so you can see how your school are doing! <https://joela65.wixsite.com/website>

Ideas for Golden Friday

No prep and fun for sure!



#1 Google "How to draw..."

Google "How to draw...", selecting whatever your kid wants, such as a dinosaur, racing car, fairies, princess, animals, etc or visit some [how-to-draw websites for kids](#). Get some blank sheets and let them loose to get creative.

#2 Play Cards

Remember the card games you used to play as a child, and how much fun that was? Why not teach your kids how to play the same great card games and see if you have a little card shark on your hands! If you need a refresher on the rules, here are [15 fun card games for kids](#) that are great for getting started.

#3 Make Paper Aeroplanes

All you need to make [paper airplanes](#) is paper – and pens if you want to decorate it.

First fold your paper airplane and then the kids can draw the pilots at the front and the passengers looking out of the windows. Then have a race and see whose plane gets furthest!

#4 Throw an indoor party or picnic

Spread out the picnic blanket/kids table and set out little plates with snacks and drinks and napkins, then enjoy an indoor picnic! Cuddly toys and dolls also make great guests.

Ideas for Half Term fun

Free resources on Orchard Games website.

https://www.orchardtoys.com/dept/things-to-do_d0127.htm

A Reception parent shared this today. It may be of interest to other parents.

We normally take a walk round the block and look at spotting wildlife, but today was extra special; we noticed numbers and pictures tied to lamp posts and trees. We spotted this first then we were on a number hunt. This was a fantastic idea! My child was running to see where the next number would be and the picture. It took us over an hour to find all 10, but was worth it. It was so much fun then just walking, it also got my child thinking where would the next number be. If anyone is interested it starts the other side of the roundabout between Long Lane and Blackshots Lane. My child is totally exhausted 😊

Question: Is it from Long Lane to library direction. Or post office direction please?



Answer: Post office direction. Start at the first lamp post on the corner by the roundabout and work your way up towards the post office then down Lease Drive. Have fun everyone. X



Accelerated Reader



It has been really encouraging to see the number of children who are continuing to read and take the Accelerated Reader quizzes whilst at home. In some classes over 2.5 million words have been read so far this year! One year 6 pupil has read over 1.3 million words in this time! Book Week and World Book Day are coming up at the start of March. Let's see which class across our primary schools can read the most and pass the most quizzes that week! Please see below if you need a reminder about how to access the quizzes.

CSM	https://ukhosted20.renlearn.co.uk/2237686/public/rpm/login/Login.aspx?srcID=s
DPS	https://ukhosted85.renlearn.co.uk/2237688/default.aspx
SCP	https://ukhosted33.renlearn.co.uk/2237689/default.aspx

Free School Meal Vouchers



Vouchers will be provided up to half term and then resume after the half term.

The Trust is providing vouchers via Edenred, which is the Government's provider and the provider of vouchers in 2020. At any stage, if anyone has a question or needs help, please contact Peter Melville, the Trust's Chief Operating Officer via a dedicated email address fsm@swecet.org

The LA is making a payment to those families in receipt of FSM during the half term.



And finally something to keep the adults going...

As in our last period of lockdown, we are very aware of the pressures adults at home are facing. We thought it would be good to offer parents and carers something to keep you going...

Home working and behaviour management...



Please do NOT try this at home!

Step Into Spring

6 Weeks to Wellbeing for Carers



Join us weekly for 6 sessions.
Wednesdays at 12.00pm.
Starting on 10th February 2021.

Sessions include:

Mindfulness

Visualisation sessions

Breathing techniques

How to manage
your anxiety

Call us for the Zoom access code.

Make Yourself A Priority

01375 659 172

carers@tbmind.org.uk

