



Head of School Newsletter

www.chestnutparkschool.org

@chestnutcroydon



Chestnut Park Primary School is a school of excellence where every child is both challenged and inspired to achieve beyond their dreams.

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are moving into our second week of opening to our Year 1 children. Next week (Monday 22nd June) we will open to our Reception children as well. It has been an enjoyable week and lovely to see the smiles and hear the laughing of both the children and staff.

Over the next few weeks we will be working on our 'recovery curriculum' ensuring the children are safe and happy at school whilst we gently move into a more academic 'consolidation' curriculum.

As we continue to welcome more children back, we would like to reassure parents, as per our letter, that there are no penalties if you chose not to send your child to school;

'Please be aware that it is your decision as parents and carers as to whether or not you decide the time is right for your child(ren) to be in school. For the next half term, the Government has stated that there will not be any penalties for parents and carers should they decide to keep their children at home.'

Classes will look a little different when children return; please do use the social story on our website to help prepare your child if they are returning to school. [Click here](#). For our new Reception children returning then please share the video uploaded by Mrs Lewis and Mrs Brooks on Tapestry.



Staffing update

This term we said goodbye to both Mrs Donnelly and Mrs May, who have both started their maternity leave. I'm sure you would all like to join us in congratulating Mrs May who gave birth to a beautiful baby boy named Logan last week. We wish them both well and look forward to them returning.

We welcome Mrs Jane Payne (Inclusion Lead) and Mrs Jayne Curd (Thrive Lead) to Chestnut Park this term. They will both be working off site and preparing for the Autumn term.

We have completed the recruitment process for the next academic year and continue to work on our staffing plan. We will share details about new classes and teacher with you in due course.

School Reports

The format of our school reports have changed slightly this year due to the impact Covid-19 has had on the children's education. The report will be slightly shorter and will represent a picture of your child's learning up until the point of school closure. School reports will be posted to our families the week beginning the 6th July. If you would like to discuss your school report, please email your teacher directly or enquiries@chestnutparkschool.org

FSM

The Edenred government scheme continues to supply £15 vouchers each week to those who are eligible to free school meals. The most recent announcement from the government is that this scheme will continue to run during the 6 weeks holiday. As a school we are reviewing the scheme and are consulting our current catering company in regards to the possibility of supplying food parcels to those eligible. Any decisions made will be communicated to the parents.

If there are any queries in regards to FSM then please contact FSMvouchers@chestnutparkschool.org.

Some of our families have already benefitted from extra food parcels from the school. If you feel this is something your family may benefit from please email talk2us@legacyyouthzone.org . Legacy Youth Zone are a local company who can support families beyond what they are already receiving from the FSM scheme.

Summer School catch up

The government continue to discuss and tabloids continue to share news in regards to a 'possible' summer catch up. Schools have not received any guidance or instruction on this yet and at the current time we do not have any plans for such a provision. Any guidance issued will be fully reviewed by the trust, staff and governing board and families will be informed of any decisions made.

We continue to make plans for September but do not have any firm decisions or plans in place yet. We continue to await government guidance and will plan accordingly. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Staying in Touch and Safeguarding

Class teachers will continue to try to call or email parents to provide an update each fortnight and to share any class news. We hope this will assist families and children to feel connected to the school and their class. Please note these calls may show as private numbers. Due to new guidance the teachers will no longer leave a voice message, but instead will follow up with an email.



Parent Zone is a social enterprise devoted to helping families navigate the digital age. Their mission is to improve outcomes for children in the digital world so that they are safe and resilient enough to cope with the challenges that come their way, and are educated for a digital future. To achieve this, they work with schools, families, government, parenting professionals and industry to help young people make the most of all the internet has to offer.

Each fortnight, Chestnut Park will be sharing an article provided by Parent Zone, in order to support our children in the digital world. This week's article has a focus on the popular game Minecraft, and how to stay safe whilst playing.

<https://parentinfo.org/article/staying-safe-on-minecraft>

Top Tips for Speech and Language

Please see the guide attached to the email for our top tips for speech and language written by Mrs Data and Mrs Lewis.

The link below is a great tool for free resources to support the development of language at home.

<https://www.elklan.co.uk/downloads/free-resources>



Lastly, can I take this opportunity to say a 'BIG' well done to all our children and parents who are working hard at home. Keep it up!

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Lewis and The Chestnut Park Team

