



# NEWSLETTER

## 12.02.2021

**Did someone say it is snowing!!!!**



Snowflakes are falling,  
They're perfect for me.  
Not one of these glistening plates are  
the same.  
Oh, how it falls,  
Just so elegantly.  
What beauty it brings every day!



Miss Tierney and Dr Lawson making sure the premises are safe.



Reception and years 1 and 2 built a snowman and had hot chocolate.





**Safer Internet Day 2021** | Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February

Together for a better internet

**Safer Internet Day**

Well done to all the pupils who participated in the Safer Internet Day on the 9th February 2021.

In support of Safer Internet Day, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families, Vicky Ford, has said:

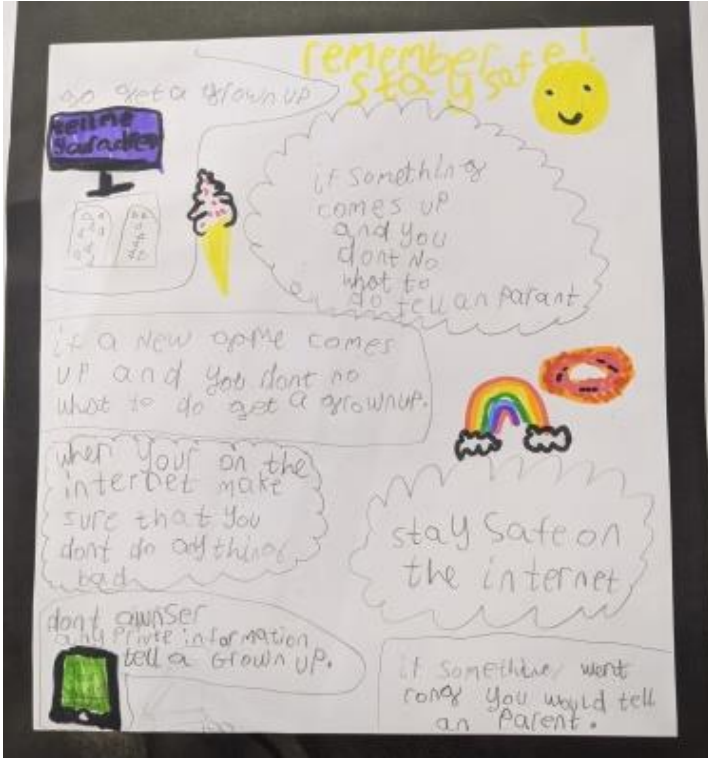


*“As children are living in an increasingly digital world, it is vitally important that they are able to separate fact from fiction and challenge or question any misinformation they may come across.”*

*“We are providing 1.3 million devices for children who need them the most because we know that the internet is an important vehicle for education during the pandemic, with extensive advice for schools on how to prioritise online safety.”*

*“This year’s safer internet day is more important than ever.”*

**We got a certificate for participating!**



# Safer Internet Day 2021



This is to certify that

**Dr Walker’s Church of England Primary School**

supports

**Safer Internet Day 2021**

**Together For a Better Internet**

**Tuesday 9th February 2021**

#SaferInternetDay

saferinternetday.org.uk



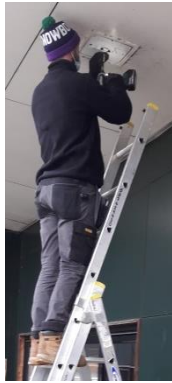


## What else happened at school this week?

Several engineering specialists visited us.  
All to make our school even better!

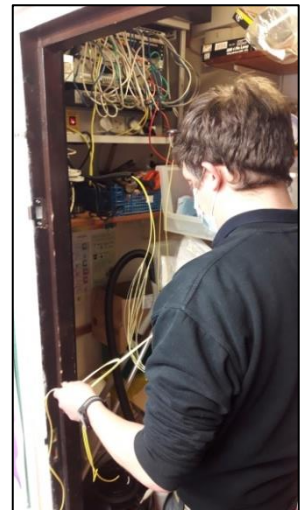


Electricians came in to fix our lighting.  
Wow, look how high they had to climb on the A-frame ladder.



BT busy with upgrading our broadband connection!  
We are getting ready for great digital access and learning!

Openreach arrived and the engineer installed the Network termination equipment.



### secure engineers

The engineers made sure our security doors are working properly and are secure. We are safe!



To help make us make our school a better place, we need the expertise and advice of the local community. Please contact the school office if you can offer or know of any tradesmen that can help the school:

- Handyman
- Carpenter
- Electrician
- Plumber





### **Volunteers – painting of the school interior**

I am seeking to gauge if there might be anyone willing to volunteer over a weekend to help with painting the walls of our school's interior. (Paint will be provided!).

Tea and biscuits will be made available to those who are interested in sparing a couple of hours to help us. Please inform the school office if you are interested to help.

Thanks to those who have volunteered so far! We will be in contact.

### **Parent governor vacancy**

There is a vacancy on the governing body for a parent representative. Please contact the school office if you are interested to stand. We will then email you a form to be completed and request two recommendations. An election will take place if there are a number of candidates. A copy of the terms of office will also be emailed to interested individuals. Term of office is 4 years.



**So what do school governors do? They have a varied and important role...helping the school run effectively.**

The governor role is strategic rather than operational. Governors don't get involved with the day to day running of a school, instead supporting and challenging the school's leadership team to drive school improvement.

Governors usually attend around 6 meetings a year. Being a school governor is a commitment and a responsibility, but offers you the chance to see first-hand the impact you can make in improving education for children in your community.

**So what is a parent governor?** Governing bodies usually have between 2-4 parents on the governing body, who represent the parent community.

### **PTA**

I am really excited to have received some responses, indicating an interest to join the Parent Teacher Association.



PTA activities can vary from school to school. The main aim is to be involved in fundraising and social events for pupils, parents and teachers – **OUR COMMUNITY!**

The goal is to provide extra resources and, in some cases, making it possible for activities such as school trips to happen.

Please contact the school office if you are interested to join or for more information.



### **STAFF INSET day on 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

School will not be open for pupils on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February as staff will be engaged with off-site Continuous Professional Development and training.

### **School re-opening on 8<sup>th</sup> March**

ECC has updated schools that an announcement will be made by the government and DfE (hopefully by 22<sup>nd</sup> February), which will be science led and consider both national and regional return approaches depending on COVID rates.

## Remote home learning

A big thanks to our wonderful teaching staff, for working so hard in preparing resources for remote learning and making weekly welfare calls. Staff is doing a fantastic job delivering remote education to our pupils and students, whilst continuing to be under enormous pressure dealing with the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.



The Department for Education (DfE) have advised that schools and colleges do not have to offer live lessons. *“Remote teaching will include both recorded or live direct teaching time, and time for pupils and students to complete tasks and assignments independently. Online video lessons do not necessarily need to be recorded by teaching staff at the school or college. Oak National Academy lessons, for example, can be provided in lieu of school or college led video content. Schools and colleges are best placed to decide on the most appropriate approach to teaching their pupils effectively.”*

A big thank you to our parent community, for supporting your children at home. We have had very positive feedback regarding the standard of resources provided. I do however acknowledge that there might be different preferences to ways of receiving our remote learning offer of provision.

### A kind reminder:

- Children to return completed work to their class teacher. This can be done via email.

### Thank you to those who are sending in loads of work.



### PE – Results for the 1km Run Down Challenge

Congratulations to those who took part at home with the 1km run.

15 schools entered with 306 participants ranging from Reception to Year 6, combining in 306,000m (306km) travelled a fantastic achievement. That is the equivalent of London to York!!!

See the results table for schools below (Distance covered by School). (Some schools only sent their fastest runners so not all 305 runners' results are on there).

Schools Entered	No. of Entries	Distance travelled (m)
Staples Road	142	142,000
St Johns CofE	45	45,000
Hereward	37	37,000
Theydon Bois	20	20,000
Ivy Chimneys	14	14,000
Moreton	12	12,000
Stapleford Abbotts	12	12,000
Dr. Walkers	6	6,000
Leverton	5	5,000
St John Fisher	5	5,000
Epping	3	3,000
Alderton Infant	2	2,000
High Beech	1	1,000
Matching Green	1	1,000
Chipping Ongar	1	1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>306,000</b>

Mrs Dawson has a certificate ready for those who took part.

# COVID-19 UPDATE

## COVID-19 update

Positive news is, that the infection rates in Essex County have fallen to around 200 per 100000.



## Critical worker childcare brokerage for half-term

As schools will close over the half-term break, if there are any critical worker families who are unable to manage their childcare over the half-term week due to work commitments, please contact the childcare brokerage service on [ey.comms@essex.gov.uk](mailto:ey.comms@essex.gov.uk).

## Free school meals

The government will also continue to provide support for pupils eligible for benefits-related free school meals through the national voucher scheme or lunch parcels to those learning at home during term time next half-term. Support will also be available during the half-term holiday for vulnerable families through the Covid Winter Grant Scheme.



If your child is eligible for FSM, please contact the school office to arrange for the vouchers.

## Department of Education Coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline

The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline and the PHE Advice Service (option 1) is available to answer any questions you have about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education settings and children's social care.

**Phone: 0800 046 8687**  
**Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm**  
**Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 6pm**

## REMINDER: Competition

We would like all pupils to make a drawing on one of the following:

- I like my school
- Nature (e.g. flowers, animals, rainbow, etc.)
- Things I like to learn about (e.g. the 50 experiences in school)
- Living in the UK (e.g. buses, trains, Churches, Big Ben, London landmarks, etc.)
- School values
- British Values



Class teachers will make templates available as part of remote home learning. The drawings will be used for a mural to improve our school environment.

**Closing date: Tuesday 23 February.**

## School Menu

Our kitchen staff has updated the weekly menu for those on site. The 3-weekly menu is published on the school's website. We are continuing to offer balanced hot meals daily for those on site.

Dr Walker's CE Primary School – Term 2020

**Menu Two served on weeks commencing: 4/1/21, 25/1/21, 22/2/21**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<i>Reception Class (Caterpillars) have the daily option to choose a hot meal or the packed lunch for the day (see below)</i>					
<b>Choose your main</b>	Macaroni Cheese	Savory Mince	Beef Burger in a Bap	Sweet Winter Chicken	Fish Finger
<b>Vegetarian Option</b>	Roasted Vegetable Pasta	Vegetarian Casserole	Vegetarian Burger	Sweet Winter Quorn	Veggie Parcel
<b>On the Side</b>	Sweetcorn Salad Crusty Bread	Mashed Potatoes Green Beans	Diced Potatoes Baked Beans Salad	White Rice Broccoli	Chips Peas Sweetcorn
<b>Lighter Bite</b>	Panini choice of fillings Salad	Panini Ham or Cheese Salad	Jacket Potato Choice of fillings Salad	Jacket Potato with Choice of fillings Salad Wrap choice of Fillings	Crusty Bread Mixed Salad Panini Fish Finger or Cheese
<b>Pack Lunch in classrooms</b>	Panini choice of Fillings	Panini choice of Fillings	Beef Burger in a Bap Or Vegetarian Burger in a Bap	Wrap with choice of Fillings	Fish Finger Or Cheese Panini
<b>For Dessert</b>	Ginger Biscuit Fresh Fruit	Yoghurt Fresh Fruit	Crumble Slice & Custard (no custard for P/L) Fresh Fruit	Smoothie Fresh Fruit	Homemade Lemon Drizzle Sponge Fresh Fruit

## Family Lives Covid-19 Wellbeing Support

Family Lives has received funding under the Covid 19 Wellbeing project to work in partnership with Essex County Council to provide support to lone parents and parents of children with SEN across all areas of Essex.

Family Lives are working in partnership with Essex County Council to provide online parenting groups and individual support for any lone parent or parents of children with SEND living in Essex and affected by the impact of Covid-19.

The school can support you with a referral. Please speak to Mrs Lester (SENCO) at school.

For more information, call Kath or Louise on 0204 522 8701 / 0204 522 8700 or email [services@familylives.org.uk](mailto:services@familylives.org.uk)



**family  
lives**



Essex County Council



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# When emotions explode

Last year and the start of 2021 has been extra stressful and, understandably emotions may be heightened at home. It's normal to feel frustrated, worried or angry about the situation, but it can be hard to know how to communicate in these very emotional or angry moments.

This poster aims to support parents when their child has angry feelings or outbursts and may help families start a conversation and talk about each other's feelings.

## Very Angry

Stay calm.  
Stay safe. walk away if possible and make sure you don't engage with your child until you are both calm.

## Frustrated

Reflect what you can see in your child. 'I can see that you're angry/upset' 'I understand that this might be difficult for you.' 'I understand when you did x this made you feel..'

## Calm

Use this time to explore your concerns and ask questions like 'what happened there? How did you feel?' If there has been lots of conflict reassure them and remind them you still love and care about them.

## When emotions explode (Young Minds)

Young Minds have also created a useful poster highlighting ways to give support to children when they have angry feelings or outbursts and may help families start a conversation and talk about each other's feelings.

Download the poster here:

<https://youngminds.org.uk/media/4291/when-emotions-explode-poster.pdf>

## Have a great half-term holiday!



## Bible Reading

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,  
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

*John 3:15*

Best wishes,

Dr L Lawson  
*Headteacher*