



NEWSLETTER

26.02.2021



The Prime Minister has announced on Monday, 22 February, that the Government has set out its plan for the return of all pupils to schools and colleges, as part of the roadmap for leaving lockdown.

All schools will return to face-to-face education on Monday 8 March.

The usual rules around school attendance will apply from 8 March.

The school will monitor attendance as usual, including those identified at risk of disengagement.

The return to on-site provision for all education will be supported by a range of actions designed to minimise the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

The school is committed to reduce the risk of transmission. This is inclusive of controls to assess risk and implement measures to mitigate risk, including ventilating occupied spaces, introducing enhanced cleaning and retaining bubbles of students. We ask pupils, students and staff to continue to do everything they can to adhere to these measures, because it is vital that they are implemented well and consistently.

In primary schools and early years settings, face coverings should be worn by staff and adult visitors where social distancing between adults is not possible. Children in primary schools do not need to wear a face covering.

Primary school staff will continue to take two rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) tests each week at home to identify positive cases more quickly and break the chains of transmission.

**A note from the Secretary of State for Education, The Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP, on:
Education recovery and qualifications**

"I know you are completely aware that missing face-to-face education has severe impacts for children and young people, with clear evidence that time out of face-to-face education is detrimental for cognitive and academic development, learning, health and wellbeing. That's why the Government has been clear that restricting attendance in education settings was a last resort, and why education is being prioritised as we begin to ease restrictions. We will be setting out further measures for immediate support to children, early years settings, schools, colleges and local authorities later this week.

I and Ofqual will also be setting out very soon further details of the alternative arrangements to exams. This follows the consultation which received over 100,000 responses, including from so many of you and your students.

I am very pleased that we are able to return children and young people across England to their classrooms and colleges, to allow them to spend time with their friends and teachers and get back into the rhythms of the school or college year. I would like to thank you again for all the hard work you have done and continue to do to ensure that children and young people can return to face-to-face learning as smoothly as possible."

Please have a look on the school's website for updates, as we will upload an updated Risk Assessment.

Schools coronavirus (COVID-19) operational guidance

We have reviewed and updated our risk assessment to reflect the latest announcement and operational changes including plans for asymptomatic testing and contingency plans for outbreaks or changes in restrictions.

Summary notes:

- All primary school children are to return on **Monday 8th March**.
- Attendance is deemed mandatory.
- Primary school staff will continue to take two lateral flow COVID-19 tests, each week, at home.
- Primary age pupils will not be tested with lateral flow tests.
- Face coverings should be worn by staff and adult visitors in situations where social distancing between adults is not possible, outside of the classroom.
- There is no need for class sizes to be adjusted from the usual size.
- No educational visits should take place at this time.
- Clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) staff are advised not to attend the workplace.
- The advice for pupils who have been confirmed as clinically extremely vulnerable is to shield and stay at home as much as possible until further notice.

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

World Book Day – 4th March 2021

Marked in over 100 countries across the globe, World Book Day is a UNESCO initiative that aims to celebrate both books and reading, especially among younger members of our societies.

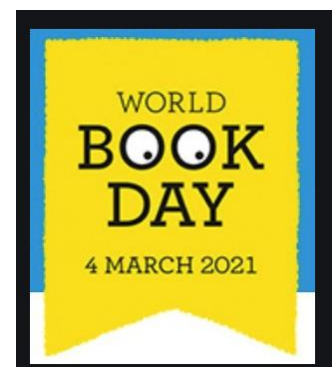
In 2021, World Book Day, just like everything else, will be different. The focus is on the powerful and positive message about books and reading, even in lockdown.

Trivia: World Book Day falls on the same date every year as St David's Day.

For more information:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/2020/09/world-book-day-2021-announcements/>

On Thursday the 4th of March we are celebrating World Book Day! We would love it if you could dress up, whether you're in school or completing remote learning at home. Keep an eye on Twitter for further updates.



What else happened at school during the half-term holiday and this week?

The school had a bit of a make-over (and still in progress)...



Entrance

Reception class area



Headteacher's meeting area

Corridor

Hall

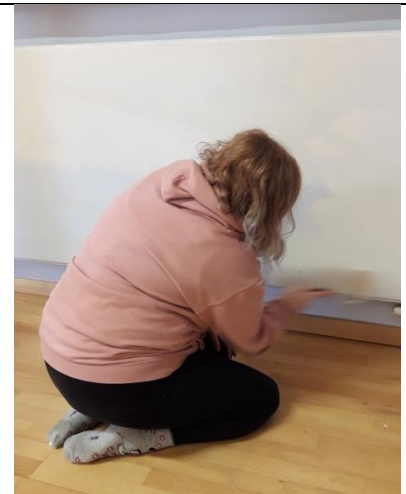
Staff helping with decorating



Mrs Spanton



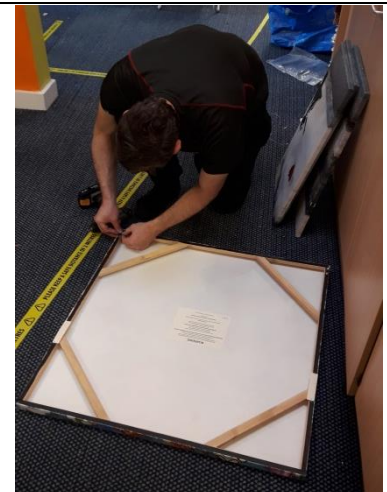
Miss Tierney



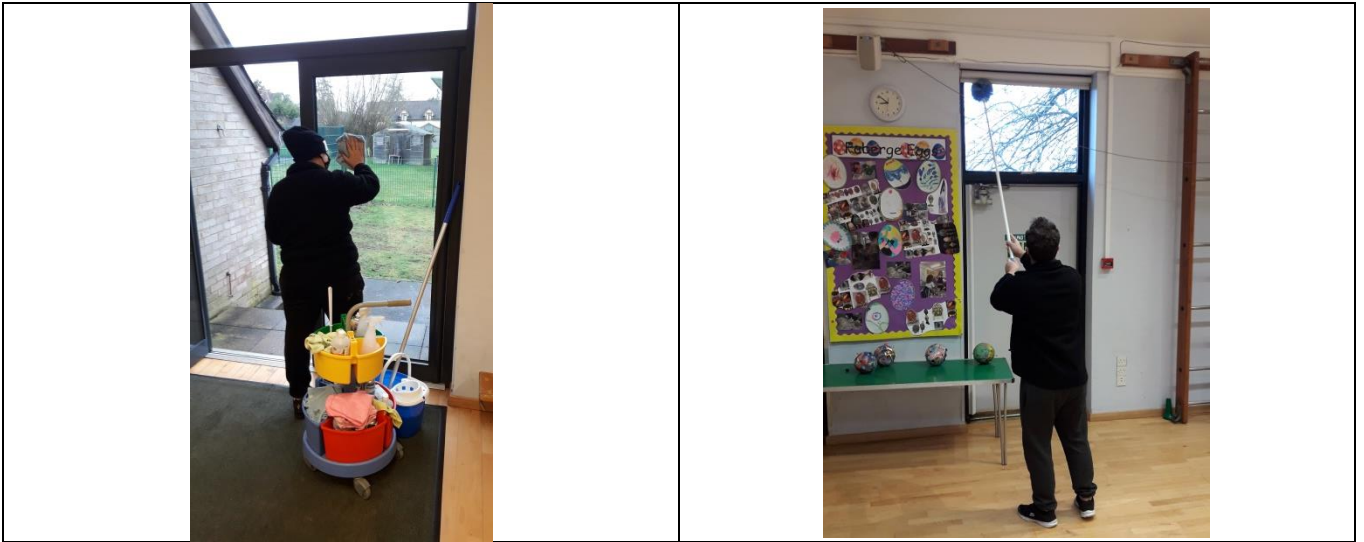
Miss Adams



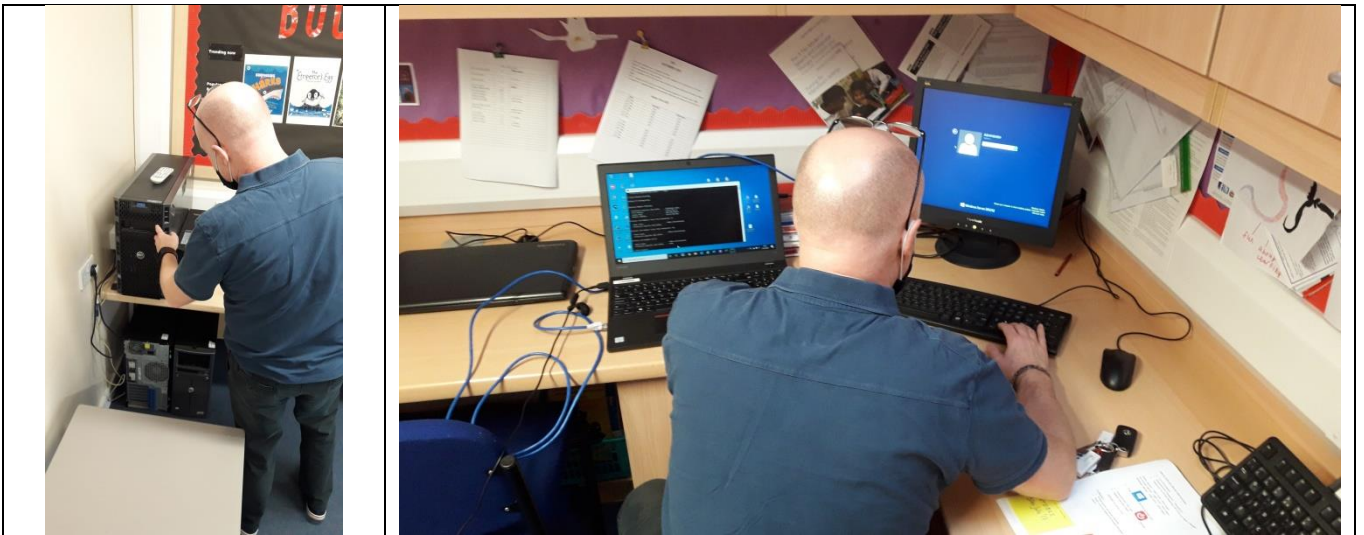
Dr Lawson



Deep cleaning took place.



IT support merged our school's two servers into one! How clever.



Mrs Platman received laptops from the DfE





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

If there are any volunteers willing to help decorating/painting classroom interiors over a weekend (towards Easter), please let the school office know.

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

Parent governor vacancy

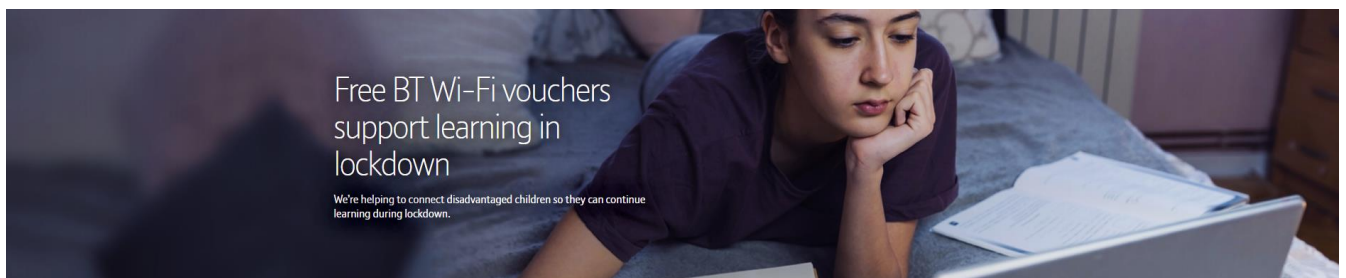
There is a vacancy on the governing body for a parent representative. Please contact the school office if you are interested to stand. We will then email you a form to be completed and request two recommendations. An election will take place if there are a number of candidates. A copy of the terms of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

PTA

Please contact the school office if you are interested to join the Parent Teacher Association for more information. A number of staff have already shown an interest.

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.

BT free WiFi codes



BT has made available a substantial number of free Wi-Fi voucher codes for schools to distribute to pupils aged 16 or under, who don't currently have adequate access to internet connectivity at home.

How will the Wi-Fi voucher codes work?

Each Wi-Fi voucher code will allow access to the internet on up to three devices at a time, for free, until the end of July 2021. Access will be provided through BT's network of over 5 million Wi-Fi hotspots around the country and includes comprehensive content filtering.

Please let the office know if you are interested and eligible, as we need to apply for these.

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.

	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>					
Choose your main	Pepperoni Pizza	Homemade Crunchy Coated Chicken Fillet With choice of sauce	Pasta Bolognaise	Chicken Pie Gravy	Fish Fillet
Vegetarian Option	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Quorn Dippers	Pasta Bolognaise Quorn Mince	Vegetarian Sausage Twist Gravy	Southern Crumbed Quorn Burger
On the Side	Sweetcorn Salad	Savory Rice Broccoli	Sweetcorn Garlic Bread	Mashed Potato Cabbage Carrots	Chips Peas Baked Beans
Lighter Bite	Jacket Potato Choice of fillings Salad Wrap choice of fillings	Tuna & Sweetcorn Or Ham Panini Salad	Jacket Potato Bolognese or Cheese Salad Wrap choice of fillings	Ham or Cheese Panini Salad	Jacket Potato Choice of fillings Wrap Choice of fillings Salad
Pack Lunch in classrooms	Wrap choice of fillings	Tuna & Sweetcorn Or Ham Panini Salad	Wrap choice of fillings	Ham or Cheese Panini Salad	Wrap choice of fillings
For Dessert	Toffee Crispy Fresh Fruit	Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Custard (no custard for P/L) Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit Platter	Jelly with Ice cream Fresh Fruit	Yoghurt Fresh Fruit

Also available daily: Bread, Salad, Fresh fruit, Yoghurt. Fresh milk or water.

School meals/menus 2020/winter

The school has signed up for Operation Encompass



OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Are you concerned about a child or children in your school who are experiencing domestic abuse?

Would you like FREE advice and a professional dialogue with an Education Psychologist about how to best support them?

Call the Operation Encompass Teachers' Helpline

0204 513 9990

(Charged at local rate)

Monday to Friday 8.00am to **1.00pm**

Funded by

Home Office

Department for Education

Stranger Danger

Back To School -
Child Safety Tips

*You can't always be near your child.
How do you make sure they are safe?
Teach your children:*



STRANGER DANGER

01 What do you mean by strangers?

'Pretty' strangers can be as dangerous as scary-looking strangers.

03 Possible dangerous situations, eg:



A stranger claims to be a friend of your parents and offers you a ride home from school.

Children should not approach or follow strangers



A nice looking stranger approaches you and asks for help/directions.

Good grownups don't ask kids for help. They go to other adults for assistance

02 Who can they go to when they need help?



04 What to teach your child:

Always be accompanied by someone they can trust.

Know the home address and mummy's and daddy's phone numbers.

Scream or shout "NO" when they are in a dangerous situation.

Talk with mummy/daddy about their day and not keep secrets from them.



"Stranger danger" is the idea or warning that all strangers can potentially be dangerous.

It is an example of a moral panic that people experience regarding anyone that they are unfamiliar with in society. The phrase is intended to encapsulate the danger associated with adults whom children do not know. The phrase has found widespread usage and many children will hear it during their childhood lives.

Many books, films and public service announcements have been devoted to helping children remember this advice. The concept has been criticized for ignoring that the most child abductions and harm result not from strangers, but rather from someone the child knows.

The main threat with which stranger danger campaigns are concerned is child sexual abuse.

Source:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stranger_danger

STRANGER DANGER

- NEVER** Never agree to meet a stranger. Do not go anywhere, or do anything, with someone that you are not comfortable with.
- NEVER** Never take sweets or presents from someone you don't know.
- NEVER** Never get into a car or vehicle belonging to someone that you do not know.
- NEVER** Never give your personal details to a stranger.
- ALWAYS** Tell your parents or a responsible adult, where you are going and who you are with.
- ALWAYS** Arrange a time to be back - and stick to it!
- ALWAYS** Look out for each other when you are playing with friends.
- ALWAYS** Make sure you know the contact details of your parents, or a responsible adult, that you can contact in an emergency.

Thought of the Week – Diocese of Chelmsford

22 February 2021



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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

As we return to school for the second half of the spring term, we find ourselves already immersed in the season of Lent. A time of observance and preparation, a time traditionally used for fasting or the giving up of something, an invitation to make hearts and minds ready for remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection.

Perhaps this year, more than ever, we understand the sacrifice and challenge involved in waiting. Waiting for good news, waiting for the vaccination roll out, waiting for lockdown to end, waiting for all pupils to return to school, waiting for Government announcements. The patience of the country had been tested and strained, no more so than within our schools.

Yet as we begin this week, we do so with a strong sense of hope, a renewal of strength for the weeks ahead, a light at the end of the tunnel, growing in brightness and leading us forward. The journey has been long and difficult, the challenges huge, the stresses tremendous but despite it all we carry on. Rising from the dark winter days we embrace the new season of spring that is nearly upon us.

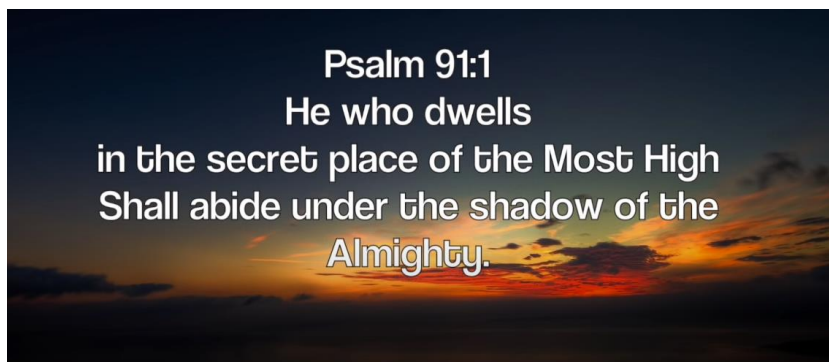
As schools move forward over the coming weeks, in which ever direction they are taken, take time to pause this Lent. Look after yourselves, look after each other. Reflect on your journey, be proud of the steps you have taken. The wait is not yet over, we know there are still more challenges to overcome, but as you walk forward into the second half of the academic year, remind yourself '*i can do all this through him who gives me strength.*' *Philippians 4:13 NIV*

Produced by Carrie Prior



www.cdbe.org.uk

Bible verse for the week



Psalm 91:1
He who dwells
in the secret place of the Most High
Shall abide under the shadow of the
Almighty.

Best wishes,

Dr L Lawson
Headteacher