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The Reginald Mitchell Lockdown News

"work together...learn together...reach for the sky"

26th February 2021



Dear Parents

We are all so relieved to be re-opening in full to our children on Monday 8th March. We have already worked through a new risk assessment and re organised staff to accommodate the return to our normal numbers of pupils on site and are now focusing on the plans for a recovery curriculum.

Meanwhile, I hope by now you have had time to read through the information sent out to you on Wednesday 24th February regarding the details of how the day will run for you and your child from 8th March. (All documents can be found in the March Folder in the COVID 19 area on the school website <http://reginaldmitchell.staffs.sch.uk/covid-19-information/>)

Even though our school will re open in full, the risk of COVID has certainly not gone away, we all know how easy it would be for a case to be detected and bubbles to close again. We are determined in school to reduce the potential of this as much as possible, please can we urge you all to support us by wearing a mask on site, socially distancing at all times, entering the site at the designated times and not before and leaving the yard immediately.

We will be providing 'normal' online learning until Wednesday 3rd March and then provide more IT based activities for your child to complete on Thursday 4th and 5th March – this is to enable us to finalise plans and resources for the coming weeks in class.

If like my own children, yours can not fit into their school uniform, please let us know as we do have many spare jumpers, cardigans etc. New guidance directs us to ask children to return in uniform, but we are aware that being over half way through the school year the justification to buy new clothes is difficult. If this remains an issue for you please ring us as we can help and we can agree a compromise which suits us all.



Free School Meals

We are very aware that during this difficult time your circumstances may well have changed and this may now mean your child is eligible for benefit related free school meals. So I have listed the criteria below and also encourage you to go to www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals to check if you are eligible.

Current eligibility criteria are if you are in receipt of:

Income Support

Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance

Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

the guaranteed element of Pension Credit

Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If you think you are entitled to benefit-related free school meals please apply via the following link: <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Apply-online.aspx>

Or contact the school office for further information.

Nursery places September 2021 We have places available in the Nursery for September 2021. If your child is 3 before the 31st August they are entitled to a free place in our Nursery for 15 or 30 hours .

Please contact the school office for more information on how to apply.



The Children First Learning Partnership Multi Academy Trust: Director Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy on the Directors Board of our Multi Academy Trust. This is an exciting opportunity for someone who would like to contribute to the strategic leadership of our Trust. Please click here for further details:

<http://www.childrenfirsttlp.org.uk/vacancies>



TT Rockstars

Battle of the Classes

A HUGE well done to all of our KS 2 classes who have participated brilliantly in this weeks Battle of the Classes times tables competition on TT Rockstars.

The winner of the Year 3 and 4 class battle is **Year 3.**

The winner of the Year 5 and 6 class battle is a **DRAW.**

The next battle is set! Good luck to you all. Look out for a text next Friday to announce next weeks winners!



World Book Day is on Thursday the 4th March. Due to COVID it is a little bit different this year. Staff will be setting activities on TEAMS to celebrate this day such as quizzes, picture games etc. To celebrate as a whole school we would love to see photos of you reading your favourite book. Please email them to your class teacher and we will display them in our "new" school library.

We shall keep your £1 book tokens safe until you all return to school on the 8th March.

These are the books you can buy with the token or put towards any book.



You can also visit www.worldbookday.com for more activities and listen to lots of authors reading and talking about their books! HAPPY READING!!