

Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School Weekly Up-date 19th March 2021



Key Dates:

26th March—Teacher training

29th March 2021— 9th April 2021 Easter holidays

20th and 21st April 2021—Parent Meetings via Teams

Staffing—Covid restrictions and Challenges

Some parents have written to enquire about changes in staffing in some of our classes. I wanted to explain why these have taken place and what is planned going forward. Due to some staff needing to shield, at very short notice, I had to ensure teachers were available in classes in specific days. This was a real challenge and involved moving staff from one class to another, which was not ideal. During the national closure of schools, we also had to ensure there were teachers available to teach those at home and teachers available to teach those in school. I am very sorry that some of the challenges have impacted on your child's class. There is a clear structure back in place going forward into the summer term and I attach the document that sets out which teachers are in the classes across the school and on which days. Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding during this disrupted period of time.

NURSERY PARENTS

The fruit scheme is now back in place and as a result we would ask you NOT to provide your child with snacks each day. Snack time can now return to usual pattern, enabling the children to receive their snacks as a group. This develops their social skills and their understanding of how we share and how we wait our turn etc.

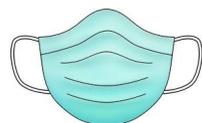
Thank you so much for providing snacks during the National closure of schools.



Spring Meadow Infant and Nursery School

It is almost time for the Easter break and I know for you as parents, as well as for the children, the term has been another frustrating one. I am at a loss as to what to say about the difficulties we all continue to face except that is that everyone is doing the best they can. We continue to hope for better times. I wish everyone who is part of our school community the very best for the future.

You have been informed of the positive case of Covid in the school in our Reception bubble. The bubble system meant that this was contained and at this time we have not been informed of any further cases, so this is very positive. It was a surprise for us, but one we must all heed of course. The virus has not gone away for certain.



PLEASE WEAR A FACE MASK AT ALL TIMES WHEN IN THE SCHOOL.

It is for your own safety and that of others.



Parents Evening Events Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

We will be holding our parent meetings on Tuesday 20th April and Wednesday 21st April 2021. These will be delivered remotely due to the remaining concerns about Covid.



All meetings will take via TEAMS where possible. We will write to you straight after the Easter break to explain how the meetings will take place and agree suitable times with you.

For those children who have been learning at home for some of this year we will take the opportunity to find out from you what they made good progress with and what you feel they found difficult. We have assessed all children since returning on the 8th March, but will welcome all information from parents to ensure we build on what is already known by your child.

Maths, Reading and Writing



After the Easter Break our Leaders of English and Maths will be delivering some maths sessions to support your child at home.

Weekend learning will return, just short sharp activities that are mostly practically based. These will focus on practising old learning rather than introducing new.

We need all of our children to **MASTER** the basics so they are ready to move onto the next stage of their learning.

The sessions will be live, but we will also film these so you can watch them at a later date as a reminder, or you can view later if you cannot make the live sessions.



More information to follow.

National Tests and Assessments



Each year the children in Years 1 and 2 usually go through a series of tests and assessments, these would usually take place towards the end of the summer term, as prescribed by the Department for Education. (DfE)

The children in our current Year 2 undertook their phonic tests in November 2020 because the school was closed during the summer. Parents in Year 2 will know the outcomes of the assessment of phonics during parent meetings in April 2021. We will also report these outcomes in the annual reports in the Summer 2021.

We have been told by the DfE that we will not be undertaking the tests this summer in Year 1 and 2. Therefore all data we report to you will be assessed by the class teacher.