
Ackton Pastures Primary Academy

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Friday 29th January

Dear Parents and Carers,

After the news this week that school will not begin wider reopening until the 8th of March, I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge well done to all our children and families for how well you have adapted to this new way of working. I know that you will feel, like I do, disappointed that we cannot come back together as expected after February half term. However, it has been so reassuring to see the fantastic learning that is still able to take place and I am confident that the lessons, which the staff are working so hard to deliver remotely, will ensure that the children continue to make good progress.

Children's Mental Health Week

Next week is children's mental health week. As a school, we understand that this is a really challenging time for lots of our families and we want to reassure you all that we think you are doing a fantastic job! In order to relieve some of the pressure next week, we are replacing all our usual afternoon curriculum lessons with ideas and activities to support mental health and wellbeing. These activities are suggestions and you are very welcome to try as many or as few as you like throughout the week. We would love to see any of your efforts, so please feel free to post your pictures to Seesaw or tag us on our Twitter feed.

Reading



Bug Club

This week, we launched our new digital reading scheme, Oxford Owl for our younger children and Bug Club for Key Stage 2. It has been fantastic to see so many children logging on, discovering new books and reading for pleasure. We also launched additional taught reading comprehension sessions via Microsoft Teams this week. Each day, your teacher will set some comprehension questions for your children to have a go at and the following

day they will model how to find the correct answers. As always, these sessions are recorded and can be accessed at a time that best suits your family. Reading is a vital skill which unlocks the whole curriculum and even just five minutes of daily reading can have a huge impact on reading fluency.



Asymptomatic Testing in School

This week, staff in school began routine testing for Covid-19. These lateral flow tests aim to identify people who may be asymptomatic. Please be aware, that if your children are currently attending school, these tests may require us to close bubbles at short notice. Please ensure that the school office is kept updated of any changes to your mobile phone number or email address.

The Headteacher is the designated person for all child protection issues

Free School Meals

Vouchers have been issued to families entitled to means-tested free school meals this week. Every child eligible will receive a £15.00 supermarket voucher for each week up to February half term. We know that many families' circumstances may have changed as a result of the pandemic. If you think that you might now be entitled to Free School Meals, please apply via the link below.

<https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/schools-and-children/free-school-meals>

If you would like any advice or support in claiming Free School Meals, please call the school office or email ap-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk who will be happy to help.

Here to Help

If you need any help or support with remote learning, please remember we are here for you. You can contact your class teacher by emailing ap-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk or call the school office to request a call back from a member of the senior leadership team. We know that families have been working relentlessly and we appreciate all of your support.

Have a wonderful weekend,



Miss K. Lea

Headteacher