

Newsletter Friday 8th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carers,

Happy New Year, I hope you are all well in these very strange times! Thank you to everybody for your understanding during what has been a somewhat challenging week!

Our priority, as always, is to keep all our children, staff and families safe. I must ask that, if you are able to keep your child at home, please, please do so, in order to protect the safety of us all and help to break the transmission of this virus.

We are reaching the point where the number of critical worker and vulnerable children requests for places exceed the number of places that we can physically offer, whilst maintaining social distancing measures and adhering to our risk assessment. Therefore, we will be using the following criteria to prioritise places:

- 1) Vulnerable children
- 2) Single Parent Critical Worker/Both Parent Critical Workers
- 3) 1 Parent that is a Critical Worker within the NHS
- 4) 1 Parent that is a Critical Worker in Education/Nursery
- 5) 1 Parent that is a Critical Worker in other industries

We cannot, however, guarantee that we will be able to accommodate all requests even if you qualify on the above list.

Home Learning

I would like to thank all the Teachers and Support Staff who have produced some excellent videos to help with home learning. We have received lots of positive feedback about these.

Well done to all the children that have accessed Purple Mash and produced some great work during this first week of home learning. Well done to all the Parents too!

Please answer the telephone to us. This may show as an unknown caller/number on your phone. Calls will be made at least once per week as part of our Safeguarding procedures.

Free School Meals

We are currently awaiting guidance from the Department for Education as to the arrangements for children eligible for benefits-related free school meals. We will update you as soon as we are able.

Staff changes

We are pleased to welcome two new Teachers this term, Mrs Brennan in Year 1 and Miss Dyer in Year 2. We also welcome Miss Penzer who joined us recently as an Administrator in our Inclusion team.

Elm Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Alexandra Prout, BA (Hons), Director of Primary Education

Jo Fish, BA Ed (Hons), Principal

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Covid reminder

Please be reminded that, if anyone in your household has symptoms, you MUST isolate, arrange a test and follow track and trace guidance. If your child is currently attending school, you should NOT send your child to school until a negative result has been received. If anyone in your household is positive, everybody in the household has to isolate for 10 days. If you are in any doubts whatsoever, please ring the main office.

Kind regards,

Mrs Fish
Principal

Important Dates for the Diary:

Spring Term

Half term

End of term

Monday 15th – Friday 19th February 2021

Thursday 1st April 2021

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