

Meon Junior School

Headteacher's Newsletter Monday 18th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we enter into our third week of remote learning, I would like to thank the whole school community for their continued support as we work our way through together.

Provision in school for pupil of critical worker and vulnerable pupils:

At the weekend, two members of our staff in the year 4 bubble have tested positive for coronavirus. Following advice from Public Health England, we have made the decision to close the bubble within that year group for a period of 10 days until it is safe for them to return. This includes all staff associated with that bubble as well as anyone else identified as close contact.

We are of course taking this extremely seriously and have acted immediately, liaising closely with Public Health England and the relevant authorities to undertake the necessary action.

We are confident that we have taken the necessary health and safety actions to ensure it is safe for all other pupils, who are using the critical worker and vulnerable pupil provision, to continue to come to in school. Therefore, all other pupils currently attending in years 3, 5 and 6 can continue to do so as normal.

The health and safety of everyone in our school community is our absolute priority and every decision we take is in the best interest of our pupils, staff and wider community. I have promised to keep you updated throughout this unprecedented situation, which is why I am informing you of the actions we have decided to take.

As a reminder, if your child is displaying coronavirus symptoms, or begins to, they must self-isolate for 10 days and you must inform the school immediately to ensure we can take the necessary action.

Healthy Minds Day

On Wednesday 3rd February, we will be having a 'Healthy Minds' day. In the past, we have used this day to focus on our mental health and how it is just as important to look after our mental health, as it is to look after our physical health. We will suspend the normal school timetable and our remote learning will focus on this. Lessons and activities provided will, of course, be age appropriate. We have chosen this date as it falls in children's mental health week. We will be supporting 'Inside Out Day' which is a campaign for children's mental health awareness. The Inside Out day campaign aims to enable young people to start talking about their mental health. How someone looks on the outside does not necessarily reflect how they are truly feeling on the inside, so it is important to always be kind and think of others. On the day, we will be encouraging our pupils in school and at home to turn an item of clothing *inside*

out to get important conversations started. No one should be embarrassed about how they feel. Further details and plans for the day will be shared with you nearer the time.

Miss Knight our pastoral lead and school ELSA (Emotional literacy Support assistant)

Miss Knight would like to organise an opportunity for pupils working remotely at home to receive some emotional support about any anxiety that they may have about the coronavirus. If you feel your child would benefit from support, please let us know using the link below by the end of this week.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=s23q1ha_kkmgEHn2jimNvJX8GCY2FiVCukrRF5ct_CdUOVpWTEY2NFI5Qk1KNlpPNjhSMjITUjdCMY4u

Remote Learning Feedback

We are eager to get your feedback on the remote learning we have provided in the past few weeks. Feedback is important to us so that we can continuously review what we offer and provide the remote learning that is right for our school community. Please can you spare 5-10 minutes to respond to a survey by following the link below. This survey will remain open until Monday 25th January.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=s23q1ha_kkmgEHn2jimNvJX8GCY2FiVCukrRF5ct_CdUNzIYVIlHSUc5RIZGVDZITkY4SDNXT1FEQy4u

Please encourage your child to participate in everything we offer including assemblies. We are working hard to continue to make sure all pupils; particularly those remote learning at home, still maintain contact with the whole school community.

Warm Regards

Mrs Sara Paine