

Oughton Primary & Nursery School

Mattocke Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 2NZ Tel: 01462 450716 Fax: 01462 431990

Website: www.oughton.herts.sch.uk Email: admin@oughton.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs L Clayton

Assistant Headteachers: Mrs E Carroll & Mrs C Phillipson

17th April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have had a good Easter, even though it has been somewhat strange! At least the weather has been lovely. I hope you are all staying well. I just thought I would give you an update.

We have been open this holiday for Key Worker and vulnerable children. The children here have been kept busy - they have been planting in the allotment, feeding the rabbits, exercising, producing artwork and enjoying Easter activities.

Next week is the start of the Summer term, which is certainly not going to be a normal start. As you are aware, the lock down continues and so the school will continue to be shut officially, although open for Key Worker and vulnerable children. A booking form has been sent for next week for those children who fall under this category. If your circumstances change and you fall into this category, please email Mrs Channa at admin@oughton.herts.sch.uk to inform her.

Yesterday the Government have updated their information to Parents and Carers:

 $\underline{https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-\underline{carers}$

The Teachers will be sending you the home learning work for next week on Sunday and this will also be put on our website. Our advice is to go back to a routine - almost as if it was a normal school week. Make sure your child goes to bed at a normal time, gets up and plans their work with you including regular breaks.

Please ensure that you check any websites your child is accessing at home. It is vital that they are kept safe and are not accessing any inappropriate sites. Please be aware, TikTok is not an app primary age children should be accessing - there is a lot of swearing and inappropriate material on this. If your child is chatting to someone via the internet, you need to ensure that you know who they are talking to. Remind your child of the rules of using the internet and how to keep themselves safe. The NSPCC has some advice on teaching your child internet safety. We will also be sending you through the Herts for Learning Online Safety newsletter for Parents next week.

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/

For any Parent who is eligible for Free School Meals (not to be confused with all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 universal free meals) from next week we are using the Government Voucher system. You should receive an email, from Edenred on Monday and you will need to follow the instructions for this to access the voucher. It is my understanding that you will not need to print anything out and the vouchers can be used in most supermarkets. You will be issued £15 per week and we have signed up for 3 weeks at a time. You do not need to use the whole voucher at once and this money is to provide your child with a lunch.

If you think you should be eligible for this, please email Mrs Channa at admin@oughton.herts.sch.uk and she can help you. We have used the most current email address that we have for Parents. However, be aware, due to the high demand for vouchers, there may some delays. If you have not received anything by the end of the school day on Wednesday, please let us know.

Reception school places for September 2020 were sent out yesterday by Herts County Council Admissions. Please ensure that you respond to any offer given by the 30th April to accept a place.

Oughton Nursery places for September 2020 will be sent out on Friday 24th April. If you did not apply for a Nursery place, please contact Mrs Channa on admin@oughton.herts.sch.uk and she will guide you through this process.

I would like to wish you all a good weekend. I hope the weather stays fine. Stay safe.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs L Clayton Headteacher