

Steam Mills Primary

26.02.21

Dear Parents/Carers,

Hurray!

We are very excited that the 8th March is now a definite date for full opening and we can't wait to welcome everyone back! Well done to all parents, carers and staff for getting through this partial closure and let's hope it is the last. Please get in touch if you have any worries about your children returning and know that we are all ready to help them through a 'recovery' stage towards eventual normality.

Drop off and collection times, bubbles etc. are all still the same as they were in December.

Everything looks so much more positive for the future and let's all enjoy it to the full! Can't wait to see you all, children! Not long now!

Transition to fully re-opening

If your child has been at home throughout the lockdown, please continue with the daily learning activities, as class teachers will include activities to support their return. If your child is attending part time at the moment, it is really important that they complete the daily activities on days they are home.

Children's attendance up until 5th March

If your child is accessing school and does not come in on a day we expected them (eg. if your shift has changed), please remember to phone us to say they will not be in. This is because we need to account for the children we expect in.

Children's attendance from 8th March

All children must attend (unless there is an agreed part time timetable for children with EHCPs to support transition.) If you think your child may be particularly anxious about returning, please inform the class teacher so that support can be put in place at school.

Letter to Parents/Carers from the Education Secretary

Please read this letter from Gavin Williamson about schools fully opening.

<https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/23/an-open-letter-from-education-secretary-gavin-williamson-to-parents-carers-and-guardians/>

A very big 'Thank You'

Class 1 would like to say a very big 'Thank You' to the Roberts family for their very kind donation of hanging baskets. We will be planting them up in the coming weeks with strawberries and flowers to help us with our learning this term.

Huge thanks also for the reading books that were also donated!

The Class 1 Team

Diary Dates

March

4th World Book Day
19th Red Nose Day

April

1st End of Term 4
19th Start of Term 5

May

3rd Bank Holiday
28th Inset Day & End of Term 5

June

7th Start of Term 6

July

21st Inset Day & End of Term 6

Using devices frequently?

What is the **20-20-20 rule**? If you find yourself gazing at screens all day, this might be useful. Basically, every **20** minutes spent using a screen; you should try to look away at something that is **20** feet away from you for a total of **20** seconds.

Uniform

It is completely understandable that your child's uniform/shoes may not fit and we appreciate that shoe shops are not open. Please do not worry; send your child in with the best alternatives you can until you can replace items.

Return of Devices

Please could you ensure that if you have borrowed a device from school for home schooling that this is returned to the school office along with the charger and cover (covers for laptops only) on Monday 8th March.

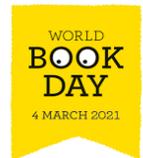
Lunches, Breakfast Club and After School Club for Children Returning to School

Please could you ensure that lunches are ordered on the ParentPay system ready for your child's return to school. Just to remind you that you must order in advance as there is a 48-hour cut-off due to the meals being cooked off-site and to order. If your child is returning to school and you would like Breakfast Club and/or After School Club provision, please complete and return the attached request forms (one form is for ad-hoc requests and the other is for regular bookings). Thank you.

World Book Day and Red Nose Day

On Thurs March 4th, World Book Day will be celebrated with activities for children at home and at school. We are not doing a dressing up day at school this year.

However, on Fri March 19th, all children will be in and we will mark Red Nose Day with a mad hair or hat day and encourage children to wear something red. So, start thinking of how to use hair gel and spray creatively or decorate a cap/hat in a crazy way! There are some fabulous ideas online – just google 'mad hair day ideas' or look on Pinterest. Lots of ideas could be adapted into hats or wigs! Suggested donation £1-£2 per child.



Support Agencies

Attached to this newsletter is a flyer that lists various support agencies should you need to access them.

Please remember

Please practice social distancing whilst at school, wear a face covering, remain very vigilant for symptoms and do not send your child to school if they have any of the following symptoms:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

Best Wishes
Mrs Davis