



TUTSHILL C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Love One Another, Know Ourselves, Believe and Grow'

FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

As we continue to move through the spring term, we have received further news that we will remain open only to key workers and vulnerable children, until March 8th 2021, at the earliest. This is not the news that we wanted to hear. We are very much looking forward to when all our children return to site.

Until then, I would like to report how incredibly impressed we have been with our families juggling home schooling, working from home and family life. We fully understand this is no easy task. Teachers are providing work for the children that continues to follow the curriculum and children are returning work showing us what they have been doing at home. We know that not all tasks will be covered each and every day and we know that there are other siblings at home also needing attention. Where possible, we ask that the Maths and English tasks are returned so we can continue to follow the curriculum. If you are struggling with access or devices, please make contact, we may be able to help.

The message that we sent to you right the start of lockdown, be kind to yourself, has not changed! Remember you can make contact with us at any point should you need clarification, have a question, or just need someone different to talk to! Please do this either through the School Office or directly to your class teacher via SeeSaw or Tapestry.

Miss Lane
Headteacher

Children attending School

To the parents and children that are attending school, on site, please can I remind you of the following start times:

Year Group	Start time	Gate	Finish time
Year 6	8.45am	B	2.45pm
Year 5	8.45am	A	2.45pm
Year 4	8.55am	B	2.55pm
Year 2	8.55am	A	2.55pm
Year 3	9.05am	B	3.05pm
Year 1	9.05am	A	3.05pm
REC	9.15am	B	3.15pm

Please be on time. Should you not arrive at these times and should you have not previously notified the office of a late arrival, there is a chance there may not be anyone in the office to let you in.

Once again, can we remind parents of the importance of social distancing and their child's safety whilst waiting at the school gates. We have noted children running around playing tag instead of standing patiently with their parents. It is especially dangerous at the moment with the roadworks surrounding the school area.

National lockdown

Please can we remind families of the guidance we need to be following by visiting the following link <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>.

You must not leave, or be outside of your home except where necessary. You may leave the home to:

- meet your support bubble or childcare bubble where necessary, but only if you are legally permitted to form one
- You cannot leave your home to meet socially with anyone you do not live with or are not in a support bubble with (if you are legally permitted to form one).

Children's Mental Health Week

This year, Children's Mental Health Week is **1st – 7th February 2021** and the theme is 'Express Yourself'. Looking after our children's mental health and wellbeing has always been important to us at Tutshill - and is even more so during this global pandemic. This week, like every week, staff at school will be doing as much as they can to support our children's mental health and wellbeing - for our learners at home as well as those in school. This could be through our regular Teams chats, weekly



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wellbeing ideas, informal catch ups or PSHE lessons & activities. Please do contact us if you would like any additional support for you or for your child(ren).

On the link below, there is some useful information for parents & carers about Children's Mental Health Week, including some free virtual sessions, games, activity suggestions and top tips.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 9th February is Safer Internet Day. Children are using their devices so much more during lockdown and it is vital that we do all that we can to protect them and understand how to use the internet safely. Here is the link to the Safer Internet website which has 'top tips' and ideas to support children's understanding of staying safe online.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2021>

Fun Friday

We feel we all need a little something fun to look forward to! On **Friday 12th February 2021**, your class Teams meeting will be a fun filled session with lots of fun and laughter! Your class teacher will be in further communication to tell you what you may need for the session!

February Half Term

Schools will close as usual over February half term (**Monday 15th – Friday 19th February 2021**) and are not expected to remain open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers during that week. Schools do not need to provide lunch parcels or vouchers during the February half term.

The first day back to School is **Monday 22nd February 2021** for children of key and critical workers and vulnerable children.

During half term, there are essential works happening on the school site meaning we are unable to use ProStars to offer provision to key worker and vulnerable children.

Healthy Start Vouchers

We have been asked by Public Health at Gloucestershire County Council to share some information regarding Healthy Start Vouchers.

If someone is pregnant or has a child under 4 and they are getting benefits, they may be able to get Healthy Start vouchers to help buy some basic foods and vitamins. They will also qualify if they are under 18 and pregnant, even if they don't get any benefits.

- Pregnant women and children over 1 and under 4 can get one £3.10 voucher per week.
- Children under 1 can get two £3.10 vouchers (£6.20) per week.

The Healthy Start scheme provides vouchers to spend with local retailers and also gives people access to free vitamins distributed via the Children and Families Hub from Shire Hall. Further information can be found at the following link

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/healthy-start>.

Contact Information

Please ensure you advise the School Office of any changes to your contact details. This includes changes to mobile/home phone numbers or email addresses as well as changes of address. It is vital that we have your up to date information for all correspondence purposes and in case of emergency. Please email any changes to office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

School Contact Details

Telephone: 01291 622593

Email: office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

Attendance:

attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

PTA email: ptatutshill@gmail.com