

Poplar Farm Weekly Newsletter

Monday 1 March 2021

Thank you to everyone for your co-operation, understanding and support for our schooling arrangements during the most recent COVID-19 lockdown - both at home and at school. It has been lovely to read so many messages of support and thanks. We are really looking forward to seeing all of children in school again on Monday 8 March 2021. More information about the full re-opening of school is included in this newsletter.

Friday 19 March is Comic Relief Day and we will be taking part to raise funds for the charity. For a suggested donation of £1, the children can wear a Red Nose / red clothes / comic relief merchandise at school. In advance, thank you for your support.

I am delighted to inform you that we have been awarded with the Bronze Eco-Schools Award! This is a fantastic achievement. A massive thank you to our 'Eco-Warriors' who are supported by Miss Honeybun and Miss Ransome. We are very proud of our ongoing success with a range of environmental work in school.

Mrs Hodson
Head Teacher

Attendance

When school fully reopens for all pupils on Monday 8 March, the children are expected to attend school. There are obviously exceptions (this list is not exhaustive):

- Your child is clinically extremely vulnerable.
- Your child displays symptoms of Coronavirus.
- Your child has to self-isolate, due to contact with someone with Coronavirus.
- Your child is unwell.

Updates & Reminders

In term 4, the **PE** days in school are: EYFS, Wednesday; Y1, Monday & Friday; Y2, Tuesday & Thursday. The children must wear their PE kits to school on their PE days.

Thank you to everyone who has completed the **school lunch** orders for term 4. A reminder that these need to be completed by midday today. The menus are available on the school website for you to view week by week.

https://www.poplarfarmsch-cit.co.uk/web/school_meals/427683

Re-opening information

- Your child will be expected to follow strict behaviour rules relating to physical contact with other pupils and keeping their hands clean.
- In line with the government guidance, whilst in classrooms and in the hall at lunchtimes, the children will sit side by side, not face to face.
- Pupils will be expected to wash their hands regularly and use hand sanitiser.
- Pupils will be expected to wear full school uniform.
- Children need to bring a water bottle, their stationery set, and book bag to school.
- Children will be provided with a hot lunch during lunchtime.
- Pupils are not to wear face coverings in school.
- Please send your home learning workbook in to school as soon as possible.
- Whole school gatherings will not take place inside at any time.
- Brightstars will re-open on Monday 8 March 2021.

Diary Dates

- Monday 1 March** - St. David's Day
- Monday 1 March** - Fairtrade fortnight continues
- Thursday 4 March** - World Book Day
- Monday 8 March** - School fully open for all children
- Monday 8 March** - Start of British Science Week
- Thursday 11 March** - International school meals day
- Sunday 14 March** - Mothering Sunday
- Monday 15 March** - Start of compost week
- Wednesday 17 March** - St. Patrick's Day
- Thursday 18 March** - Global recycling day
- Friday 19 March** - Comic Relief Day
- Saturday 20 March** - International Day of Happiness
- Monday 22 March** - World Water Day
- Monday 29 March** - Start of World Autism Awareness Week
- Wednesday 31 March** - Last day of term 4
- Thursday 1 April** - Mid-year reports sent home to parents
- Monday 19 April** - Term 5 begins



Phone: 01476 850680 / Website: <https://www.poplarfarmsch-cit.co.uk/website/> / Twitter: @poplarfarmsch

Article 29 - education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.

World Book Day

On Thursday 4th March, Poplar Farm School will be celebrating World Book Day. Just like everything else this year, it will be a bit different to our usual celebrations in school, and will be celebrated as part of our remote learning. We want to make sure that World Book Day sends a powerful and positive message about books and reading, even in lockdown, and inspires children to get reading!

World Book Day activities will begin with an assembly, led by Mrs Hodson at 9:30am. You will receive a TEAMS invite to access this assembly nearer to the time, so keep an eye on the whole school page so you can click on the link at the time given.

In addition to this, every hour beginning at 9am until 4pm, staff members will be posting a video of themselves reading one of their favourite stories on the whole school page. Each video will have suggested activities linked to the story. There is no expectation to complete each one, children can choose the activities that they like the look of the most. As always, completed activities can be uploaded to the child's portfolio on Class Dojo, or on Tapestry for their class teacher to review.

On this day, your child can dress up as their favourite story character. You can send a photo of your child reading one of their favourite books to their portfolio too. We can then see their amazing outfits and share some of these photos on our class pages.

We are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day on Thursday and we hope you are too!

School drop off and collection arrangements

We have made a couple of changes to the locations of drop-off and collection areas. By using these new areas, it ensures that the year group bubbles do not pass one another in the school corridors, when walking into and out of school. Obviously, health and safety are the most important factors when planning the full re-opening, so in advance thank you for your support with these minor changes.

- Only one adult per child is permitted to come to school to drop their child off. Any younger siblings must not leave their adult and there should be no gatherings on the school site. The social distancing guidance of 2m must always be followed.
- Avoid parking cars on the school site to avoid congestion. Please park on surrounding streets and walk to school.
- Parents will not be permitted through the gates to the meeting area during morning drop off. Y1 & Y2 children will walk in by themselves to their allocated playgrounds, where they will be met by their class teacher.
- If you use the gate by the footpath at the back of the school, please keep a 2m distance outside of the school gates.
- If you have children in two different year groups, please use the allocated gate and time for your youngest child.
- At the end of the day please wait in your designated meeting area. The teachers will bring the children to you.
- Please maintain a 2m social distance when on the school site and please leave promptly.
- It is more important than ever that you are on time.

Year Group	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Drop-off time	8.45am	8.45am	8.45am
Pick-up time	3.15pm	3.15pm	3.15pm
Allocated gate	Gate behind the EYFS outside area	Gate near the footpath at the back of school	KS2 playground
Meeting area	Footpath behind the EYFS outside area	KS1 playground	KS2 playground

Additional key points for the reopening of school:

- You must ensure that if anyone in your household has COVID-19 symptoms, your child does NOT attend school and a test is organised. You must phone the school on the first morning of absence.
- Any child or staff member who develops symptoms in the school day will be sent home immediately.
- If anyone in your household, or your child, tests positive for COVID-19 you **MUST** inform the school.
- All meetings and visitors will have to be pre-booked with the School Office. Messages can be sent to teachers using Class Dojo.
- Please ensure your Class Dojo and ParentHub apps are working.

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