

23rd April 2020

Dear Parents,

This would have been the first week of our summer term – the weather is glorious and yet the school is silent. We are all following Government Guidance at this time of pandemic, and I do hope that you and those you love are safe and keeping well. As always please keep us informed if we can support the children and yourselves with any emotional issues.

As you will be aware there is currently no Government issued information regarding a confirmed time-frame for the children to return to school, but it is clear that the more we abide by the guidelines, the sooner this may be achieved. I will, of course, keep you informed of any changes to the situation, as I receive almost daily contact from the Department for Education. I am aware that the longer we are all at home, the potential for the children to become stressed and out of routine increases. Please do refer back to the Updated Learning at Home communication sent at the end of the Spring term. This is still on the front page of our website for you to access it easily. The link to supporting children with additional needs – which is actually relevant to all children, and the sections on mental health may be helpful to you.

The learning at home work, which is specifically designed to be child-driven, was posted earlier this week. We will make every effort to have the work for subsequent weeks posted on Sunday, as Monday morning overload of the system caused some difficulties for VLE use this week. Please remember from my previous communications that your children should be accessing the tasks independently. At school we teach and encourage the children to develop independence, and that is something you can support as they tackle their set learning activities. Failure is part of learning so please do not stress if your children struggle with some tasks – this is an important learning behaviour for them. As you will have seen, each week has a range of activities from which the children can select their choice of daily activities as long as all (or as many as are practicable) are completed across each week. Again, this should be something to encourage the children to have ownership of, and should not require adult planning, though we are grateful for the support you are able to offer in checking their understanding. This learning will be discussed when the children are able to return to school. We are also posting suggested additional websites which your children may find interesting on the 'Websites which may inspire' page on the Parent tab on the school website. We are aware that the Government mentioned in their daily briefings a number of online learning platforms offering a range of activities to support children and their families during this time of 'Learning from Home'. Having researched these resources, we feel that, although these tasks follow curriculum guidelines, they do not follow the curriculum that we have tailored for the children at our school. Therefore, while you may wish to access these platforms to supplement the learning at home work set by the teachers, there is no expectation for your child to have accessed or completed any of the work set out within them.

We do understand that some families have limited computer access, and therefore appreciate that some activities may need to be limited or curtailed due to this. Please just encourage the children to do what they can; and remember that reading, numbers and investigation of any kind are all key activities. The teachers are all missing the children, and have worked hard to ensure the learning activities set will be attainable for the children

whilst they are learning independently. The teachers are communicating through the VLE and are enjoying hearing from the children about what they have been doing – please do continue to encourage your child to keep in touch with their teacher.

At this time when on-line activity is dominating our lives, I would like to share with you a free resource for parents: #DITTO is a newsletter to keep you up to date with risks, issues, advice and guidance related to keeping children safe on-line, with a view to enjoying and learning about technology. You may wish to look at the latest edition to help you to keep the children safe when they are on-line more than usual.

I have been asked to share with you information regarding the village food bank. The attached pages outline how to seek or offer support. I also am including a letter from the School Nursing Service which again I have been asked to share.

Please keep safe, keep distant and enjoy the weather. Long may it continue for our daily exercise walk or cycle with the children.

Mrs K. Tamlyn
Head Teacher

Chedd-eroo

Two local food banks will support Cheddington and Cooks Wharf residents who are in need of food and essential supplies.

Ivinghoe, Marsworth & Slapton Foodbank based at Ivinghoe Church

To support local people who are in need of food items. Do you know of anyone who is in need of food or are you short of food yourself?

Contact:- Babs, in confidence, on [07860 780127](tel:07860780127) who will arrange for a delivery of essential items to your doorstep.

Leighton Linslade Community Foodbank

The Black Horse, 21 North Street Leighton Buzzard LU7 1EQ

If you are in need of support and/or essential supplies please contact us for a referral on Neighbourhoodwatchcheddington@gmail.com .

Or contact Carol on 07931 344020

Alternatively you can contact Citizens Advice.

All information will be dealt with in confidence.

Cheddington Pratts Charity

Can support Cheddington residents who are in need of essential household supplies: e.g. household cleaning products, toiletries, personal hygiene products etc.

Please contact either Carol [07931 344020](tel:07931344020) or Helen [07849 185839](tel:07849185839) who are Trustees of the Charity.

All calls will be dealt with in complete confidence

Chedd-eroo

Food Bank Donations

It is intended that all donations will be given to our two local food banks, primarily:

Ivinghoe, Marsworth & Slapton Food Bank based at Ivinghoe Church and the Leighton Linslade Community Food Bank.

Both have agreed that they will support local residents in Cheddington and Cooks Wharf.

If you have items that you are able to donate, then the local drop-off point will be available on

Thursdays/Fridays and Saturdays outside The Methodist Hall Cheddington.

There will be a bin outside marked for donations. Please place items in a plastic bag.

Currently, the following Items are in short supply:-

Tinned ready made pies - Fray Bentos - Steak & Kidney, Steak & Gravy, Cheese & Onion etc:

Tins Tomatoes: Tins Vegetables: Tins Meat - Mince, Chicken, Ham, Corned Beef: Tins Fish - Tuna, Salmon:

Tins Fruit: Tins Rice Pudding: Tins Custard: Packets Sugar: Packets Noodles: Packets Instant Mash, Potato:

Packets ready-made Custard, Cartons Long Life Milk, Nappies, Baby Milk Formula; Deodorants.

Other items required are:-

Packets cereal: Tins Spaghetti: Jars Pasta Sauces: Tins Sponge Pudding: Packets Biscuits: Packets Tea:

Jars Coffee: Long Life Juices: Packets snacks: Packets Treats: Soap: Shampoo:

Tooth Brushes: Toothpaste: Disposable Razors: Shaving Foam: Feminine Hygiene: Toilet Rolls

Alternatively, if anybody would prefer to make a financial donation, you can do so by:

Either Cheques payable to St Mary's Church Ivinghoe, and add to the back of the cheque Food bank & surname.

Then send to St Mary's Church, C/O 16 Church Road, Pitstone, Beds, LU7 9HA

Or pay direct to their bank account: Sort Code 55-70-10: Account no: 06512208:

Payee Reference: Food bank/Surname of donor

And/Or Cheques payable to The Leighton Linslade Homeless Service and send to The Black Horse, 21 North Street, Leighton Buzzard LU7 1EQ

or pay direct to their bank account at 53-70-11 Account No 72549327.

More information is available on their website at llhsblackhorse.org.uk

We really appreciate your support. If you require any further information please contact us on

Neighbourhoodwatchcheddington@gmail.com

Gail & Carol

Haleacre Unit
Amersham Hospital
Whielden Street
Amersham
Bucks
HP70JD

21.4.2020

Dear School staff, parents, carers, children and young people,

In response to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust has made a number of temporary changes to our community services for Children and Young People. This is to ensure that staff can be redeployed to areas where they are most needed and patient safety is not compromised.

NHS School Nursing service

The NHS school nursing service is operating an essential service.

- Monday – Friday, 9am – 5.00pm except bank holidays
- Contact us by phone: **01296 567833** or by email: bht.schoolhealth-enquiries@nhs.net
- Information, advice and support re: is also available on our website: www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/school-nursing

Other sources for support and advice;

- **Bucks Family Information Service** www.bucksfamilyinfo.org offers information on a range of topics relating to family life.
- **CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health service)** have a *temporary 24/7 helpline* to support the NHS 111 line during the current Covid-19 crisis. Calls will be diverted to this helpline where there are mental health concerns. Alternatively families can call this number directly 01865 904998.
- **Kooth** – Online free counselling service for children and young people www.kooth.com
- **Childline** (children’s telephone counselling or online) – Ring 0800 1111 or visit their website www.childline.org.uk
- **Young Minds** - If you are a young person experiencing a mental health crisis, you can text the Young Minds Crisis Messenger for free, 24/7 support. Text YM to [85258](https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-people/crisis-messenger).
- **Samaritans** - 24 hour confidential listening and support for anyone who needs it (parents/carers included).

Email - jo@samaritans.org Phone 116 123 (24 hours)

Helpful websites about coronavirus for parents and young people

- **Young Minds:** <https://youngminds.org.uk/blog/talking-to-your-child-about-coronavirus/>
- **Mind - coronavirus and wellbeing advice:** https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/?utm_medium=organic&utm_source=twitter&utm_campaign=info&utm_content=coronaviruswellbeing -

Please continue to follow the government advice regarding managing symptoms, self-isolation and social distancing.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jenny Chapman', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jenny Chapman

Head of 0 – 19 CYP Services