



Newsletter 7

06/05/2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello to all of you. Rather unbelievably, we are now in the sixth week of lockdown. Staying at home has become our 'new normal' and I am amazed at the resilience and determination of our community and the country at large to fight the virus.

The 'new normal' in school and at home can be described as follows :

In school :

We continue to welcome children into school on a daily basis. These are the children of key workers, children who have an EHCP and children whose families are struggling for a whole variety of reasons. In the morning, children are split into age groups and follow a learning programme of literacy, maths and topic work. In the afternoon, children follow a creative programme of art, music, sport and computing.

We are vigilant about hand washing, daily cleaning and social distancing of adults and children . As yet, no member of staff or child has been ill which is fantastic as it suggests that we are working in a safe manner. If you feel that your child could benefit from attending school because you meet any of the criteria above, please contact me directly at school or on my email : helenryan@duncombeprimary.co.uk

At home:

We launched 'google classroom ' three weeks ago. Special thanks to Katija and Caroline who worked really hard to set this up with the teaching staff. Many families are now accessing google classroom and it is a fantastic tool to engage your children. Teachers do a weekly video that explains the learning for the week. We also ask that parents send a photo of one maths activity, reading comprehension and one writing outcome for teachers to assess. You can take a photo of the work on your phone and upload it on Google Classroom or send it as an attachment to your class email (below). It is thanks to the massive effort from the staff at school, Max, Ben and Stuart that home learning packs are sent home to all pupils every week. The website continues to be updated weekly - we now have a very extensive home learning tab

(<https://www.duncombeprimary.co.uk/learning/home-learning>) that includes links to teachers reading their favourite stories on our very own YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0xDVuifgm49iQm0b-rj-NQ?>

Extra work:

Islington LEA have produced a fantastic set of weekly lessons and resources that can also be accessed. It includes powerpoints with voice over teaching that will really help you child. Please look at: <https://www.islingtoncs.org/homelearning>

Ramadan:

I know that there are many challenges for our families who are observing Ramadan during lockdown. Many of you will miss worship at the mosque and breaking fast together. I hope that you are managing within your family to celebrate and observe this very special time in the Islamic calendar. To all of you, *Ramadan Mubarak!*

School Lunch Delivery :

We have been delivering school lunches every day to over 120 children for the past six weeks. Unfortunately, due to financial constraints this is the final week of the service. A massive thanks to our team of volunteers who have been brilliant in delivering lunches across the school community. Please be assured that we will continue to support any family in need of food through our food bank deliveries- more information next week.

Free School Meal Vouchers:

There have been some big problems with the FSM vouchers and I am so sorry that many of you had to wait for a long time to get your vouchers. I believe that the main issues have now been addressed but if you are having problems please call school or email us: success@duncombeprimary.co.uk

Duncombe Food Bank:

We are in the process of setting up a weekly food bank that any family, whose child/ren attend the school can access. More information will be sent out next week.

Help from Islington Council:

Get in touch if you or someone you know needs support, help is available. Islington Council, the voluntary sector and mutual aid groups are working together to provide support. This could include help with getting food or medicine, online group activities, legal advice or a friendly conversation. You can contact organisations directly or call the **We are Islington helpline on 020 7527 8222.**

Stay safe and stay indoors. We miss you and can't wait to see you all again.

Helen

Class contact emails:

ericcarle@duncombprimary.co.uk - Anca

tonyross@duncombprimary.co.uk - Kerry

judithkerr@duncombprimary.co.uk - Alix

ernestshackleton@duncombprimary.co.uk - Caroline

francisdrake@duncombprimary.co.uk - Salma

mariecurie@duncombprimary.co.uk - Ruth D

florecenightingale@duncombprimary.co.uk - Natalee

isaacnewton@duncombprimary.co.uk - Katija

michaelfaraday@duncombprimary.co.uk - Saffa

charlottebronte@duncombprimary.co.uk - Ruth T

williamshakespeare@duncombprimary.co.uk - Kate and Louise

mlk@duncombprimary.co.uk - Eugene and Nazia

emmelinepankhurst@duncombprimary.co.uk - Paulina and Nazia

winstonchurchill@duncombprimary.co.uk - Lucy

nelsonmandela@duncombprimary.co.uk - Serach