

## Millhouse Primary School & Nursery

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**Millhouse**  
Primary School and Nursery

Headteacher: Mr G Allen

17<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

### Latest Update

Well we are now four weeks into our school closure and yesterday we heard that this will continue for at least another three weeks. We thought we would just update you on what we are doing at the moment and the latest information we have received from the local authority and the DfE.

#### Online Learning

Please see the other letter sent out with this email regarding the use of Google Classroom. We have updated and are re-launching this to make it easier for children and parents to access. There will be significantly fewer activities as we would like children to focus on the core learning basics first and then do the other activities if they or you want to. Please note, that we will not be issuing any consequences for non-completion but teachers will make contact with families if they feel the children could engage more with the learning.

#### Free School Meal Vouchers

We are still waiting to receive these from Edenred, the company the government are using. We have applied for them and they have been authorised but they haven't been released to the school yet. Please rest assured, we are checking hourly on the site and will send them via email to parents as soon as we get them.

#### Year 2 & 6 SATs

These have been cancelled and will not take place, even if we reopen before the summer. Please do not worry about this, especially if your child is in Year 6. The secondary schools will still receive a teacher assessment grade from us and will use their own assessments when organising learning classes in September.

#### Secondary School Transition

We are working with the local secondary schools on ways to help the children in Year 6 with their transition to secondary school. As we don't know how long we will be closed for, this is work in progress. Please be assured that the children will be supported during this time in the best ways possible. Should we need it, the Year 6 team will be looking at activities and learning that can be completed to help the children get ready for secondary school.

If your child did not get the school they wanted, the appeal process is still in place. This will have changed to adapt to the current situation and parents should contact the individual schools to find out how they are organising their appeals.

#### Communications

Please be aware that the school office is not always staffed so should you need to contact us, then please email [admin@millhouse.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@millhouse.essex.sch.uk) which we can access remotely. It may take us a little longer than usual to get back to you but we promise we will do our best.

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We are in the process of setting up email addresses for each year group that can be used to communicate between parents and teachers. When this is done, it should only be used to discuss learning activities and not general discussions or queries about school matters as the teachers won't necessarily have the answers and will only have to pass your query on.

Starting from next week, we will be sending out a newsletter to parents. This will include information to help with the online learning, wellbeing and safeguarding information as well as celebrating some of the children's work.

#### Reopening the School

We know as much as yourselves with regard to when schools will reopen. Please do not believe everything you read on social media or online about schools reopening as it is all speculation. Schools are closed for the at least the next three weeks and we have not been given any indication of when we will reopen or how this will happen. All we can say is that whenever we have any confirmed information from the government and local authority, we will let parents know.

When we do reopen, what we do know is that we want to ensure that everyone in our school community is supported with this transition. We want children to feel secure and safe and need to look after everyone's emotional wellbeing first and foremost.

We hope that this has been useful information and that you and your families are safe and well. If you or your children are struggling emotionally or need some support in any way, please contact us as soon as possible (put FAO Mrs Haken in the subject bar) and we will get in touch with you to discuss how we can help you.

Kind regards,



Mrs J Haken  
Deputy Headteacher