

Millhouse News

8th January 2021



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This is just a short newsletter this week with just a few reminders and pieces of information that may be useful for you. We know that this week may have been hectic and / or stressful for a lot of you (it certainly has been for staff). Just as we were doing in March last year, we are working on information and guidance that is being published and changed day by day. As we said before, school leaders do not get any of the information before the general public and we then have to wait for the official guidance for schools to be sent out to us so it does sometimes take us a little while to put new things in place. Thank you for being patient!

Home Learning

A couple of additional ideas for you if you want to use them...

- Joe Wicks is once again streaming live workout sessions. These will be on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9am starting next week.
- CBBC are broadcasting 3 hours of lessons and learning from next week. These will be between 9am and 12pm, Monday-Friday and are available either through the CBBC channel, BBC iPlayer or the BBC red button service. If you are finding it difficult to get online at the moment, these may be suitable.

Access to Technology

Thank you to those parents who have completed the form or have let us know that their children need a device or internet access. We are working our way through the list and will have the first batch ready to be collected on Tuesday next week. Parents will receive an email on Monday giving them a time slot for collection. Please note that we are trying our best to accommodate all requests but will be allocating one device per family at the moment until we are able to order more.

Google Classroom logins will be resent to those of you who have requested them, however the systems that generate these are not working at the moment so we are having to manually reset and send each one individually. We will have all logins sent out to those who requested, by Tuesday next week.

Increased Data Usage

We have been told that the main mobile data providers are offering parents a free increase in their mobile data usage so that children can access their home learning. Parents should contact their provider directly to organise this.

Using Games Consoles to Access Learning

If your child has an Xbox or PlayStation they can use these to access the Google Classroom and the home learning. Although it is absolutely necessary, this can be made easier if your child also has a Bluetooth or USB connected keyboard (these are quite cheap to buy online). Follow the instructions on the next page to do this.

Wellbeing & Safeguarding Concerns

Although we might not be in school, we are still contactable and will deal with any concerns that you may have. In the first instance, please email your child's year group team and ask their teacher to call you. If it is confidential, more serious or about another child please email Mrs Haken using admin@millhouse.essex.sch.uk and she will get in touch with you to discuss and support.

HOW TO ACCESS GOGGLE CLASSROOM FROM AN XBOX AND PS4

PS4

1. Turn on PS4
2. Use your controller to scroll to the far right of the bar with games to *Library*
3. Select *Library* application
4. Within the library use the search bar to type in *Internet*
5. Select the *Internet Browser* app
6. Start Internet Browser and press the triangle button on the controller to search
7. Once on the internet, type in the search box *Google Classroom* and select the first link that comes up:
Classroom: manage teaching and learning Google for Education - link below'
<https://edu.google.com/products/classroom>
8. Select *Go to Classroom*. Then log in using student email and password.

XBOX

1. Go to Home Menu
2. Select *My Games and Apps*
3. Scroll down to Apps
4. Go to *Microsoft Edge* application
5. Type in a search for Google Classroom
6. Select *Go to Classroom*
7. You will need to log in using your student email address and password.