

Thursday 28th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is wonderful to see so much learning being posted on seesaw every day. Thank you for your continued engagement with remote learning. We can see that the children are retaining knowledge and understanding in this lock down period and that new learning continues following our long term plans.

Mental Health and wellbeing week w/c 01.02.21.

Each class are going to continue to focus on activities and understanding around the importance of this. Further details will follow on seesaw next week.

Staff self-testing

As you may have seen in the press, primary schools have been issued with lateral flow tests for staff. Testing in our school will commence **next week**. The tests are designed to recognise asymptomatic cases of COVID 19 so that transmission can be reduced. Tests are taken twice a week (every 3-4 days). We have asked staff who opt in, to do their tests on Sunday evening and Wednesday evening. If staff report a positive result this may lead to bubble closure, depending upon recent contact in school.

Please ensure you check your emails on Sunday and Wednesday evenings for any 'bubble' closures.

Message from the governors

I hope you and your families are safe and well as yet again we find ourselves in difficult times. The closure of school is something we would all have hoped to avoid. Whatever your present situation we appreciate how challenging it will be and wish you well.

As you will have been aware there was a recent vacancy on the governing board for a parent governor, as a result we now welcome Michael Clements to the team. Michael is a parent of children in Years One and Six.

Last Friday was our 'governor development morning'. As I have mentioned before, we would usually spend the morning in school looking at various aspects of school development, speaking to staff and pupils and finding out about all the current things happening in school. This is obviously not possible at the moment so we held our morning meeting remotely.

We had discussions around our roles and responsibilities as governors and the governing board's role within the MAT, including its decision-making responsibilities. On the school website you can find the document 'Governance within the Inspire Partnership Multi Academy Trust' should you be interested in reading about the structure of the MAT and how the trust, the governing bodies and the schools work together.

We also had presentations from Miss Sidebottom and Miss Montgomery about remote learning. We looked at Seesaw and how it works, the Home Learning Agreement, live lessons, timetables, the uploading of work and monitoring. It was good to hear how well the children have responded to this different way of learning and the positive feedback which the school has received from many parents. The teachers are clearly striving to make the learning experience the best and most effective

they can for both the children in school and those at home.

Once again we would like to thank Mrs Harris and all staff at the school for their continued hard work and dedication.

Take care and stay safe.

School Exercise books

We have received a donation of exercise books which we have been offering for pick up from school for the children who are home learning. Until the books run out we will offer them on a Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon next week w/c 1 February. The times of pickup will remain the same as this week for each class. This will help with social distancing at the gate. Parents are able to help themselves to the books in the boxes.

Tuesdays Y1 (1.30-1.45), Y2 (1.45-2.00), Y3 (2.00-2.15), Y4 (2.15-2.30)

Wednesdays Y5 (1.20-1.45), Y6 (1.45-2.00)

Lockdown lunches and meal plans

Change4Life have created recipes and shopping lists for families which can be used to create **Free** lunches for around £15 each week. Please follow the link below.

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/lunch/cheap-lockdown-lunch-ideas>

School Meals

Applications for Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Funding are available from the school office and also on our website. If your joint family income is £16,190 or under and you receive any of the following benefits: Income Support, Income based Job Seeker's Allowance, Income related Employment and Support Allowance, Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, Child Tax Credit without **Working Tax Credit** and an annual household income of less than £16,190, Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit), Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit, Universal Credit, provided you have an annual earned income of no more than £7,400, your child may be entitled to free school milk and school meals. Also, some clubs are free of charge for FSM children.

Whole School Challenge

Please watch out for our next school challenge being launched in the next few days. When you go for a walk make a short video of your favourite place. Miss Sidebottom will compile all entries into another whole school video. Instructions will follow on Twitter and Seesaw.

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 9th February is Safer Internet Day. Please see the link below for information about apps commonly used by children to interact with each other. Sometimes it is difficult to keep up with which app is the most popular. On the page is advice for parents and users and things to be aware of for each different app to help keep our children safe on social media platforms.

[Social networking and messaging apps guide | Internet Matters](#)

Website

We will be launching our new website in the next few weeks. Consequently, you may experience some difficulty accessing information. Any important announcements will be sent by email. Our Twitter feed and Facebook page will be regularly updated with any important updates.

Reporting Covid Cases

Please make sure you let us know immediately if your child has tested positive as we need to act quickly to inform Public Health England as well as inform parents and staff of any necessary closures and isolation requirements. Please email gca-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk.

Positive Covid Tests and Self Isolation

The government recommend that the NHS COVID 19 App is downloaded. If you test positive or are identified as a contact of someone who has recently tested positive for COVID-19, you will receive an email/text alert from the NHS Test and Trace Service advising that you must now self-isolate as soon as possible and stay at home. The message will advise the date of the isolation period and it is a legal duty to comply with this.

Schools will be asking staff and parents to provide evidence of the need to self-isolate so that an accurate record can be kept in school.

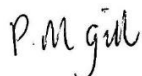
If you have any issues providing this information, please email gca-enquiries@ipmat.co.uk

Picture News

Please find attached this week's Picture News poster. Picture News is a resource used in school to promote discussion around current issues. Each week there is a homework activity with an image and a question. We would encourage you to talk about this at home with the children. There are no right or wrong answers, it is a forum for discussion.



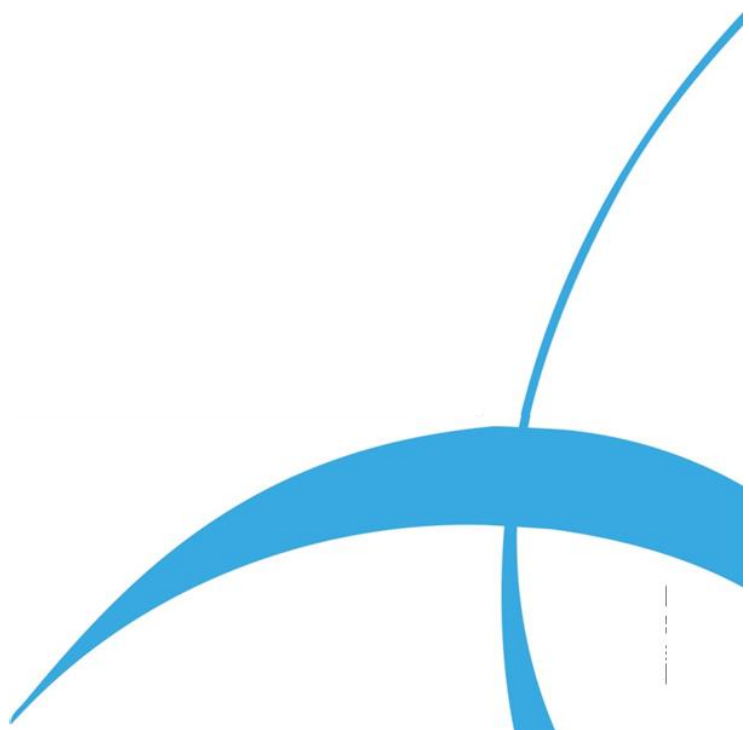
Mrs C Harris
Head of School



Mrs P Gill
Deputy Head of School

Upcoming Diary Dates

Dates	Event	Who is it for?
w/c 1 st February	Mental Health and Wellbeing	Whole School
Tuesday 9 th February	Safer Internet Day	Whole School
Friday 12 th February	Break up for half term	All children
Monday 22 February	INSET	
Tuesday 23 February	School returns	





Picture News

at Home

25th January 2021

What's going on this week?



On 20th January, Joe Biden became the 46th President of the United States, taking over from his predecessor, Donald Trump. The inauguration ceremony took place last week, marking the start of the new president's time in charge. Usually, the outgoing president attends to welcome in the next president, but this year Mr Trump did not attend the event. In the oath taken at the ceremony, Joe Biden promised to the American people to do his best to protect the country and do a good job of being their leader.

Things to talk about at home...

- Talk about different types of leaders, e.g. at school, at afterschool clubs, of our country. Can you think of any traits that these people have in common?
- Do you think anyone could be a good leader? Why?
- Do you think you would like to be a leader? What do you think would be the benefits and what might you find difficult about leading others?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments here...

