



Newsletter

14th April, 2020

Dear Parents,

I would like to welcome you to a very different Term your children will be experiencing. I hope you are all well and safe at home and enjoying time in the sunshine.

I would like to thank all the staff at Meon Infant School and Moorings Way Infant School for their dedication and commitment to the children of Key Workers who have been accessing our provision over the last few weeks, during the Easter Holidays and in the future. I would like to take this opportunity to stress the need for your children to be at home if this is at all possible for their safety and the safety of the staff.

Our thoughts and sincere thanks are with all of those critical workers who are striving to save lives during this very bizarre time – I hope you are all joining in with the weekly clapping for the NHS staff on a Thursday evening.



You will soon be able access the Online Learning Programme and we hope this will be helpful to assist your children in maintaining their love of learning.

ACCESSING THE PROVISION:

For parents accessing the provision, who we have not already had a registration form for, you will need to give the school 24 hours' notice of any new child attending and, at this present time, it is still for Key Worker Parents, vulnerable children and those with an EHC Plan. Evidence in the form of a letter from your employer and personal id OR NHS id will be required before your child can access this provision. However, I would like to stress for the safety of all that where possible please children can stay at home.



Please can I remind you that if you are not intending to collect your child yourself (or the usual person is not), can you send in a note to the class teacher for the relevant days. As you know we are very aware of the need for caution where young children are concerned and, therefore, “challenge” any “stranger” collecting children. I hope you will agree that it is in both yours and our best interest to ensure that everyone is informed of changes in the normal routine. In the case of an emergency please telephone the office to notify us of any change.

If you have any concerns please feel free to email the school and there will always be someone to answer the phone during the school day. Finally I would like to thank you all for your support over the last few weeks and the weeks to come and I am sure we will be together soon.

FSM VOUCHERS:

I would just like to clarify the issue of Free School Meals and vouchers. Although all infant school children are entitled to a free hot dinner this is different to those who are entitled to Free School Meals through our Pupil Premium funding. It is just for the parents of children who have already been identified as receiving specific benefits and it is allocated through Portsmouth City Council. Parents of these children will already have been contacted so if you have not then unfortunately you are not entitled to be part of the voucher scheme.

The vouchers will be allocated directly to those parents who qualify and this will be sent to your active e mail address that you provided to the school. If your email address has changed recently please can you contact the school with an updated one. Full instructions on how to access the voucher has also been sent out in a previous e mail.



HOME READING

We are very excited to provide you with this fantastic online resource to support your child at home with their reading! It is a whole school reading programme that will support your child to learn to read and to love reading. It has a huge variety of levelled books to support a journey from phonics to fluency, with levelled books that offer challenge, vocabulary and stamina as your child works through the bands. The books are all bright and modern and there is plenty of variety to interest all the children.

All you have to do is click on the link below, select Meon Infant School and enter the appropriate details (as below) for your child's year group. You will then be able to explore a wealth of books and materials which are matched to your child's ability which will also provide a wide range of reading experiences. Our chosen scheme is **Collins Big Cat** but you are welcome to investigate other books also. We would encourage the children to read the books themselves. For this they can turn the pages and by pressing the play/pause button this will mute the sound. The younger children may wish to have the story read to them first and then try to read it.

<https://connect.collins.co.uk/school/defaultlogin.aspx>,

Year R Login details:

Date of Birth: 02 February

First letter of Surname: A

Year Group F

Year 1 Login details:

Date of Birth: 01 January

First letter of Surname: A

Year Group 1

Year 2 Login details:

Date of Birth: 03 March

First letter of Surname: A

Year Group 2



MILK BOTTLE TOPS

Although the Lord Mayor's Appeal has now finished we are still collecting MILK BOTTLE TOPS (only) which will be used to support a Children's Cancer Charity. So, please continue to save them and you can bring them in when we are back at school. Please make sure you wash them and put them in a safe place.



MY SCHOOL APP



For those of you who have registered, please note we are no longer using My School App to communicate with parents. We now have access to **ps connect** which is a much more robust communication system and we can send texts and e mails via this system. Hopefully you will all have already received at least one text or e mail from the school. You can also use this method to reports children's absence from school.

ON-LINE LEARNING:

As from Monday 20th April 2020 the children will be able to access, on the website, weekly learning planned by the Teachers. They will also be able to watch a message videoed by the Teachers and myself. The activities will be changed weekly as it is essential that your child continues to learn even if it is virtually. Some of these activities can be adapted to suit your child and breaks during the day are essential but will be left to your discretion. Please feel free to email the school and send pictures and feedback regarding the activities – office@meoninfantschool.org.uk

We cannot promise an immediate response (if needed) as this will be need to be passed on to your child's teacher.

An email will be sent to all parents when we are ready to roll on the website – www.meoninfantschool.org.uk Scroll down and on the right hand side under Quick links you will see the Home Learning Tabs for each year group. Click on this and you should be able to access the on-line learning there. We do ask for your patience with us as it is our first time of teaching this way and sadly we are not all techy minded!!! But will, hopefully, become more adept at it as time goes on.



Unfortunately at this time we are not able to send out paper copies of homework.

YEAR 1 PORTSMOUTH PICTURE BOOK AWARDS

For children in Year 1 on the website there is also a link to the above scheme which we usually run in school. Within this link is another link to the actual books. Once you have read them please could you complete the survey which is attached to the list of books.



And finally – everyone at Meon Infants sends our love to you all – be kind, stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all back as soon as we are able.



Kind Regards
Lynda Daish
Headteacher

Translation Service

If you need help translating this newsletter please contact
EMAS Home-School Community Project on 023 9273 3130