



CAPENHURST CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

4th January 2021



Happy New Year! Hopefully everyone had a pleasant, if different, Christmas and a found a way to share it safely with their families. The staff and I were very grateful for all the cards, gifts and messages of support and thanks that were shared - they were much appreciated. This year looks to continue to be difficult initially but there appears to be promise of light at the end of the tunnel in the form of a vaccine.

Take care and stay safe,
Mrs Green

Celebrations!

We held another virtual sharing assembly at the end of last term, with each class joining from their classroom. It was great to see all the children and for them to see each other. We awarded a 'Star of the Week' from each class and also counted up the house points.

Stars of the Week:

Class 1 - Ted A for all his hard work and improvements with his writing.

Class 2 - Flynn P for his hard work all term.

Class 3 - Jax D for working really hard on all things Christmas craft!

Class 4 - Erin Y for working so hard all term and producing some lovely work.

The winning house this week was Fire. Congratulations to everyone in Fire for their teamwork in earning the most house points during the past week at school. Thank you to the children who brought something in to share and celebrate.



Covid updates

There was a flurry of news and social media activity towards the end of the Christmas holidays about the change to Tier 4 for much of the nation (including our own local authority) and the possible impact on schools. At the moment, primary schools in Cheshire West and Chester remain open for all pupils. Should this change, school will let you know as soon as possible so it is important that you keep an eye on your emails and make sure that school has the correct contact details for you.

Staff, governors and I continue to monitor the content of the guidance from the DfE to ensure that routines are in place to reduce the risk, as far as is possible, of transmission of the virus within school but no school environment is completely without risk. We ask that you continue to support the routines in place such as mask wearing and social distancing at drop-off and pick-up and that **everyone** follows the rules of Tier 4 when away from school.

These continue to be difficult times but improvements and freedoms will only be re-instated if we all play our part and reduce any possible routes of transmission for the virus so that its spread can be restricted as much as possible.

Testing for Covid-19 - please read carefully and thoroughly

It is important that if your child becomes unwell with any of the COVID-19 symptoms listed below that you get tested. Testing sites are available across Cheshire and Merseyside, with appointments for tests released daily throughout the day and a new centre has opened locally in Ellesmere Port.

At this time of such high demand it is crucial that **only** people who have **COVID-19 symptoms** book a test. These include:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

There is no need for members of a pupil's household to have a test, unless they are also symptomatic but **ALL** members of the household do need to isolate until the test results are back.

If your child tests positive they should self-isolate and stay off school for 10 days, the rest of the household need to isolate for at least 10 days. If the test comes back negative they can return to school if they no longer have symptoms and have been fever free for 48hrs.

To book a test please visit: www.nhs.uk or by calling: 119.

Applying for school places

Parents with pre-school children due to start school in September 2021 are reminded that you have **less than two weeks** to apply for reception places online via the Council's website at www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/admissions

The deadline for primary school applications is **January 15th 2021**.



Snow and Ice

Typically the spring term is one of the coldest at school with ice making a regular appearance. We will continue to play outside as much as possible so each child needs to be dressed appropriately for cold weather and icy conditions. Every child needs a coat in school every day as well as suitable footwear for school. Alternative footwear such as wellies/boots will only be necessary when it snows. Ian, our caretaker, will check the playgrounds and paths within the school boundary and grit them as and when required. The car park is not the property of school so please do take extra care when driving and walking across it on icy days.

We have adjusted the heating times in school to counteract the requirement to have all the windows open in the building to allow for adequate ventilation. If your child particularly feels the cold, they can bring an extra layer to wear indoors - perhaps their PE hoodie or something similarly plain and suitable for school.

Christmas Tree Recycling

The Hospice of the Good Shepherd is once again offering to collect and recycle your Christmas tree following the festive period. Register online before Monday 11th January at www.charityxmastreecollection.com
Please see the poster attached to this email for more details.

Class 3 Swimming

Unfortunately, as Cheshire West & Chester is now in Tier 4 of covid restrictions, EPSV is closed and swimming lessons are unable to take place at present. We are hopeful that they will start later in the term and we will keep you updated. If you have paid for the term in full, you will be reimbursed once we know how many lessons will be missed. If you have not yet completed the consent form, please do so ASAP so that we are ready to go once EPSV reopens. Thank you.

West Cheshire Foodbank

We welcome your on-going support of the West Cheshire Foodbank each week. Food items are to be brought in and will be gathered in each classroom before being placed in the collection box by a member of staff. This week the Foodbank is particularly in need of **UHT long life milk, long life fruit juice, small bottles of cordial and instant mash**. Thank you in advance for your continued support.



Emergency Foodbank Voucher

We have recently been accepted by West Cheshire Food Bank to issue emergency food vouchers for families in crisis. If you feel that you could benefit from an emergency food parcel due to finding yourself in crisis as a result of covid-related job losses, or indeed any change of circumstances, please complete the form in ParentMail. This is separate from the free school meals vouchers that were issued to eligible children during lockdown. This is open to any family who may find themselves in crisis for whatever reason, and is not limited to our free school meal children.

The form will remain available for the whole of the academic year. Please only complete the form if you need help. (You do not need to let us know that you do not require help.) The details you provide will be treated in confidence and will only be accessed by Mrs Green or Mrs Auld who will contact you to arrange the issuing of the voucher.

Friends of Capenhurst

Bonus Ball

The next bonus ball draw will take place on Saturday 9th January. If you would like to take part, there are still spare numbers. Please contact Mary Osborne via our Facebook page, or email school to pass on a message.

Facebook Page

Just a reminder, and for our new families, that Friends of Capenhurst has a Facebook page, 'Friends of Capenhurst School (PTA)'. This is a closed group for **current parents/carers only**; please request to join the group if you have not already done so and you will be added. The group provides fundraising updates and general school reminders.

Twitter

Follow us on Twitter for class news and updates @CapenhurstCEPS



Birthday Celebrations

The following children celebrate a birthday this week :
(4th - 10th January)

Flynn P

Verity C



Change to the Menu—Thursday 7th and Friday 8th January

Please check your ParentMail emails regarding a change to the menu on Thursday and Friday this week. Please can **everyone** complete the Form in ParentMail regarding Thursday's lunch ASAP, but by 12 noon on Wednesday 6th January. If the form is not completed, we will assume your child is bringing a packed lunch from home.