



CAPENHURST CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

11th January 2021



Well, that was quite a week! Hopefully you are all keeping well, following the Government guidelines with regards to staying at home and only leaving for essential trips.

Reducing social contact, wearing a mask and thorough personal hygiene are key to helping reduce the risk of community transmission alongside the roll-out of vaccines in priority order.

Whilst the government guidance states that children of key workers can attend school, it does also state that:

'Parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can.'

Thank you to those parents who have adjusted their requests for a place at school as this has helped each classroom stay within its 'safe' limits. If you have not had chance to review your request, please do so as a matter of urgency.

Requests for attendance will be sent out fortnightly and I ask that every family carefully considers their needs for each week, only asking for a place where it is not possible for their child to stay at home. Flexible, part-time attendance is encouraged and there may be occasions where all requests can not be accommodated in school. Please understand that school has an obligation to the health and safety of all the people within the building, children and staff.

If you have any questions about arrangements in place at school, please ring or email

contact@capenhurstcep.cheshire.sch.uk

Take care and stay safe,
Mrs Green

Celebrations!

Sharing assembly will be suspended until further notice BUT 'Star of the Week' certificates will still be awarded. Staff will award their stars during the Thursday zoom chat and certificates will be posted out to those children who are at home.



Learning at home and school

Teaching staff are working hard to ensure that work that is set for those children learning at home is the same as that set for the children in school to try and avoid a mismatch in terms of provision for both groups of children. They will provide clear instructions to aid with home learning and the zoom chats on Tuesdays and Thursdays are an opportunity for you to ask questions whilst remembering the chats should last no longer than 30 minutes. There is also the facility to ask questions through your child's google classroom account. We are conscious that this is another new way of working for families and staff and that there will be hiccups along the way - bear with us, polite, constructive feedback is welcomed and can be sent to school or through Google classrooms.

Applying for school places

Parents with pre-school children due to start school in September 2021 are reminded that you have **less than a week** 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**.

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.



Snow and Ice

Typically the spring term is one of the coldest at school with ice making a regular appearance. The children who are currently attending school 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.

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.

Class 3 Swimming

Unfortunately, as we are once again in a national lockdown, 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.



Friends of Capenhurst

Bonus Ball

The bonus ball on Saturday 9th January was number 53 which is unclaimed so it is another rollover! 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 :
(10th - 17th January)

Afreen S Curtis C
Ella McV Lexi E Jack O

