



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you all managed to have a good Christmas and a happy start to the new year. Monday night's announcement was not unexpected but a shock all the same and it is such a shame that we were only open to all our pupils for one day. We have a third of our community at school each day under critical worker or vulnerable provision. All spaces have now been allocated. These children are in full time and are receiving face to face teaching in their year groups. Half of the staff are in school for a week at a time and the other half are at home planning and delivering remote learning. The learning that is being done in school is the same as that being provided for those at home and follows national curriculum objectives for the year group. Assemblies will be taking place virtually and these will be available on Google classroom from next week. We do appreciate the difficulties that parents will be experiencing. It maybe that you are working from home yourselves and trying to fit home learning around your commitments. It is also extremely difficult to enable primary aged pupils to access remote learning independently. Please remember that you can contact teachers through their year group emails below which are checked daily. While you may upload work at any time, please remember that teaching staff have their own school and family commitments and are not expected to reply after 5:00pm. You can always ask to speak to a member of office staff or senior leadership team if you have any concerns – we are still here for you.

Natalie Langtree, Acting Head teacher

#### Email addresses to contact teachers

You can contact teachers via their year group email addresses listed below.

The Orchard	<a href="mailto:theorchard@londonmeedprimary.co.uk">theorchard@londonmeedprimary.co.uk</a>
Year 1	<a href="mailto:year1@londonmeedprimary.co.uk">year1@londonmeedprimary.co.uk</a>
Year 2	<a href="mailto:year2@londonmeedprimary.co.uk">year2@londonmeedprimary.co.uk</a>
Year 3	<a href="mailto:year3@londonmeedprimary.co.uk">year3@londonmeedprimary.co.uk</a>
Year 4	<a href="mailto:year4@londonmeedprimary.co.uk">year4@londonmeedprimary.co.uk</a>
Year 5	<a href="mailto:year5@londonmeedprimary.co.uk">year5@londonmeedprimary.co.uk</a>
Year 6	<a href="mailto:year6@londonmeedprimary.co.uk">year6@londonmeedprimary.co.uk</a>

#### School closure

The school will be closed to **all pupils** as normal for half term during the week commencing 15<sup>th</sup> February. The school will also be closed to all pupils on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February as this is an INSET day and staff will be working on a new curriculum plan (virtually).

#### Encouraging a Love of Reading



We really hope that children are continuing to read at least 4 times a week and have the opportunity to listen to stories being read aloud to them. Do look out on your child's Google classroom for members of staff

reading stories. This week, Mr Blake treated us to "Not now Bernard".

As we cannot all be together in person our launch of the reading raffle is being delayed in order to ensure that it is fair for everybody. We will let you know the new launch date in due course.

#### Yellow Certificates

To maintain fairness yellow certificates will not be awarded at the moment. We will however, be sending "positive postcards" to individuals who have impressed their teacher. These will be received through the post.

#### Head Teacher recruitment update

Next week your governing body will be commencing the recruitment process for a permanent Head Teacher at London Meed. Such a process takes a few weeks to conduct and my aim is to write to you all before the Easter holidays with confirmation of the successful candidate. Our recruitment process is supervised and supported by our Education Advisors at West Sussex County Council and will be carried out by parent, staff and community governors.

A national lockdown is not the ideal time to be conducting such a recruitment process but I would like to assure you that such recruitment is still being carried out by many schools in these challenging times with appropriate adjustments being made to the process, for example the use of virtual interviews. The appointment of a permanent Head Teacher at London Meed is an extremely important step in the continued improvement of our school and we all look forward to working with and supporting our successful candidate.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my admiration for staff at London Meed who this week have adapted quickly from a full school operation on Monday to operating effectively in a lockdown by Wednesday.

Jane Davey  
Chair of Governors



#### **Free School Meals**

Children who are entitled to Free School Meals will be receiving food parcels from next week.

There is much economic uncertainty at the moment and if you are experiencing financial hardship please get in touch as you may be entitled to claim for Free School Meals which will entitle you to a food parcel.

#### **The Community Hub**

The Community Hub, which was set up in March 2020, gives practical support and information to anyone adversely affected by COVID-19, which could include the provision of food and essential household supplies.

Contact is totally confidential and is available seven days a week, between 8am and 8pm when staff will be on hand to respond to enquiries.

You can find more information and request support online at [www.westsussex.gov.uk/covid19communityhub](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/covid19communityhub) or to speak to someone call: 033 022 27980.

#### **Contact Details**

Please email [office@londonmeedprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@londonmeedprimary.co.uk) with any changes to your contact details. Many thanks.

#### **Accessing Google Classroom through PS4/5 and XBOX**

Please note that you can access Google classroom through a PS4 or PS5, follow the Playstation link for details how:

<https://www.psu.com/news/how-to-access-google-classroom-on-your-ps4-and-ps5/>

You are also able to access Google Classroom through an Xbox. To do this go to Home Menu – select my Games and Apps – scroll down to Apps –Go to Microsoft Edge – type in a search Google Classroom – select go to Classroom – log in using pupil email address and password.

Please ensure pupils play age appropriate games.

#### **The “Get help with internet access programme”**

The government “Get help with technology programme” offers two ways to help children and young people connect to the internet if face-to-face education is disrupted.

If required through the programme schools can request one type of support for a pupil either:

- **Extra data for mobile devices.**

The recipient will get an increase in mobile data on a monthly basis until July 2021. Note that not all participating networks can support pay-as-you-go customers.

- **A 4G wireless router**

4G wireless routers are compact digital devices, sometimes referred to as ‘dongles’ or ‘mobile wifi’, that provide an internet connection wherever there is access to mobile networks.

It is up to the school to determine the best type of support for a child. Please email [datamanager@londonmeedprimary.co.uk](mailto:datamanager@londonmeedprimary.co.uk) if you are having difficulties accessing the internet.

#### **Term Dates 2020-2021**

For WSCC term dates please visit

[https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/media/12668/2020-21\\_term\\_dates.pdf](https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/media/12668/2020-21_term_dates.pdf)

	First Day of Term	Half Term	Last Day of Term
Spring Term 2021	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	w/c 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April
	<b>Inset Day:- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
Summer Term 2021	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	w/c 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July
	<b>Bank holiday: - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b> <b>Inset Days: - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b>		