

Mablins Lane Community Primary School Newsletter ~ 14th January 2021

Dear Parents and Children



As we enter week two of the Spring Term it is important to develop this skill. At Mablins we never 'give up' and we build resilience in to our curriculum to make our children strong and tenacious.

Last week gave us one of the biggest challenges ever to face our leadership team. It was a tough week, but we did not give up and this week now sees the school operating smoothly again but on a different course.

I would like to personally thank you as parents for supporting us last week and persevering when difficulties presented. I have had so many positive comments:

"I just wanted to send you a quick email to say how impressed I am with the home learning so far. The year 2 teachers and TA's are doing such a great job in such a difficult time for everyone."

"Thank you for yours & the whole Mablins team hard work you've made a very difficult time a little bit easier."

"I am writing to advise that given the short notice that the school was given that some of the staff were exercising their right to work from home and that they would be working remotely, the quality of work that has been provided has been amazing. Yes it's been a little chaotic trying to teach my son how to use Microsoft Teams and me working too but I am confident that this time next week he will be fine."

Thank you for taking the time to send these messages. It is good to know that you support the hard work that is going on.

School Attendance – Key workers

The school is now closed to the vast majority of pupils, the exception being those children who have an EHCP, are classed as vulnerable or whose parents have a critical frontline key worker role.

Last week I spent a great deal of time working through the requests for key worker places. Due to the increased number of children requiring a place in school we have established a pod for each year group. The register total now stands at 172 (30%).

I am concerned by the increase in the number of 'critical key worker' places that have been taken up. The imposition of the school closure aimed to reduce the number of contacts and so contribute to a reduction in transmission rates. With 30% of the school still attending the site this only goes part way to helping to stem the rapid increase in infection rates.

Many parents have been supportive and have confirmed that they will only bring their children to school when they are 'in' work, and I urge others to follow this lead.

We must ALL act responsibly and follow the guidelines if we are to prevent further cases. From speaking to some of our parents who work at the hospital, I know how stretched their service is and how 'busy' the hospital has become in fighting the virus. It is not very far from you – so 'act as if you have the virus, to keep everybody safe'.

ONLY COME TO SCHOOL ON THE DAYS YOU NEED TO!

(We do not need shift patterns, we will code the register accordingly and the place is secure once a name is on the register.)

If your situation changes then please let me know as this may release a place for someone on the waiting list.

Uniform

If your child is attending school then they should wear school uniform each day. The teacher may ask for a PE kit to be worn if that has been planned – this should be suitable and warm given the current weather conditions. All children MUST bring their coat as they will be going outside for fresh air breaks.

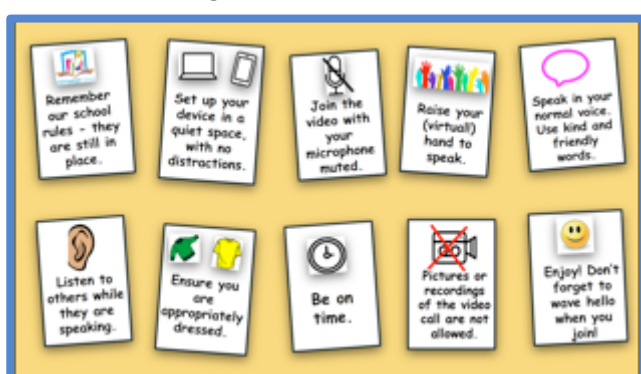
School Lunches

The school kitchen will be open providing a hot meal each day. Joy is back in the kitchen and she has adjusted

the menu with one choice each day. An alternative will be provided for dietary requirements. If children wish to bring a packed lunch they will eat this in their class area.

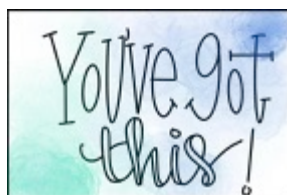


Remote Learning



Thank you **TEAM MABLINS** for getting to grips with TEAMS so quickly and for all the amazing work that you are doing at home and in school! WELL DONE also to EYFS who are working really hard with work set on the school's VLE.

We are super proud are how remote learning is taking place and thank you to parents and carers for getting on board so quickly and for supporting us and your child/children at this time.



Children from year 1 to year 6 have all got Office 365 Teams log in details and know how to access this. Children working from home will be able to access home learning through Office Teams. Children in EYFS will access home learning via the VLE on the school website please see;
<https://mablinslaneschool.co.uk/eyfs/>

Teachers will inform parents using DOJO/TEAMS of the work that will be set each week. Parents and pupils will also be sent a timetable of the week so that you know what is expected each day. The Department for Education states that schools should set work that is of

equivalent length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school, and as a minimum:

- primary: **3 hours a day**, on average, across the school cohort

EYFS	Class teachers will set work for the EYFS children on the school's VLE. Expectations and learning will be communicated to parents via the VLE/DOJO and Schoolcomms.
Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	Remote teaching and independent work will take place and we expect children to do at least 3 hours a day. All work set will be communicated to children via TEAMS.

Mablins Lane CPS Remote Learning TIPS for Parents

- 1. Establish routines and expectations*
- 2. Choose a good place to learn*
- 3. Stay in touch*
- 4. Help students 'own' their learning*
- 5. Begin and end the day by checking-in.*

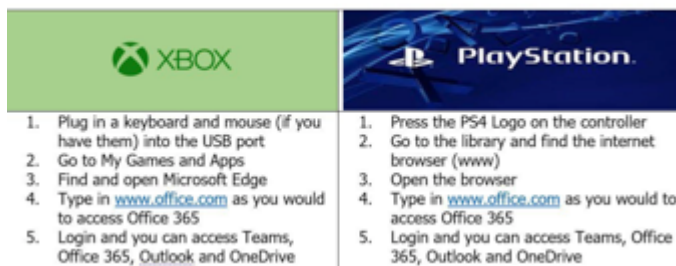
In the morning, you might ask:

- 1. What classes/subject do you have today?*
 - Do you have any assessments?*
 - How will you spend your time?*
 - What resources do you need?*
 - What can I do to help?*
- 2. At the end of the day you might ask:*
 - How far did you get in your learning tasks today?*
 - What did you discover? What was hard?*
 - What could we do to make tomorrow better?*

If you need further help with Teams then please contact us at school on deputy@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk or see this [support guidance](#).

Did you know that you can also access TEAMS on Xbox and PlayStation consoles?

If you don't have a laptop, you can access remote learning through an X-Box or PlayStation



Acceptable Use

During this time of school closures, we are working on ways to maintain the link between school and home. We miss our children and we hope to continue to communicate with them as much as possible through various means. We recognise that online safety is of huge importance and we hope that parents will adhere to our 'Acceptable Use' to protect both school staff and pupils, while working remotely online. Parents shortly will be sent the 'Remote Learning' code of conduct to read and agree to. Please see below for an example of this:

REMOTE LEARNING CODE OF CONDUCT – KS1 & KS2 Parents/children Code of Conduct using TEAMS

- *I understand that my child will be using the TEAMS platform at school and at home if necessary. The school will provide my child with an email and password to access this.*
- *I will ensure that my child is using TEAMS through their account.*
- *I will monitor my child whilst accessing TEAMS so that I can be responsible for their online behaviour.*
- *Where possible I will apply child safety settings to my home internet.*
- *I will not allow my child to access, purchase or set up social media using the school email address given to them.*
- *I understand that the e-safety policy and safeguarding policies still apply in remote teaching circumstances.*
- *I understand that a breach of the code of conduct will result in having the remote learning access taken away from my child.*

Parents **MUST NOT** record or share any element of live lessons; a consequence of engaging in such behaviour will be dealt with by the Head teacher and the TEAMS/DOJO remote learning access will be removed from the pupil.

I have read, understood and accept the parent code of conduct for remote learning.

Name:

Signed:

Date:

REMOTE LEARNING CODE OF CONDUCT – EYFS/VLE Parents/children Code of Conduct using VLE

- *I understand that my child will be using the VLE at home if necessary.*
- *I understand that the e-safety policy and safeguarding policies still apply in remote teaching circumstances.*
- *I understand that a breach of the code of conduct will result in having the remote learning access taken away from my child.*

Parents **MUST NOT** record or share any element of live lessons/EYFS videos; a consequence of engaging in such behaviour will be dealt with by the Head teacher and the VLE/DOJO remote learning access will be removed from the pupil.

I have read, understood and accept the parent code of conduct for remote learning.

Name:

Signed:

Date:

Assemblies next week on TEAMS



Mablins
Virtual School Assembly

We would really like it if children in school and at home could join us for our **Friday Celebration Assembly** next week on the **22nd January**.



Friday Celebration Assembly 22nd January 2021

KS1 Assembly – Year 1 & Year 2

9:30am

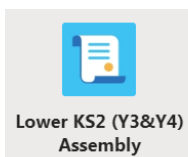
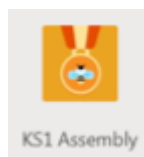
Lower KS2 Assembly – Yr 3 & Yr 4

12:00 pm

Upper KS2 Assembly – Yr 5 & Yr 6

2:30 pm

Click on the boxes named KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2 ASSEMBLY for joining details on TEAMS.



DfE help with technology – Only for Years 3 to Year 6

As part of the Government programme to help families who do not have access to a device, we have been allocated a small number of laptops.

At this point only High Schools are allowed to place orders for additional laptops.

Primary Schools cannot place orders until the DfE send an invitation to place an order. They will prioritise areas of deprivation first. We have been warned that our invite may be a week or so away yet.

Once we have been able to place our order for additional equipment we will be able to work with a limited number of families to loan equipment. We will advise parents when we are in a position to loan equipment.

We have received a number of requests for the loan of equipment. If you have not already requested to loan equipment and do not have access to a device – please email admin@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk

The BBC are also offering technical support for families without laptops, please see:-

bbc.co.uk/make-a-difference



Increasing data allowances on mobile devices

The DfE have also introduced a pilot offer to increase mobile data allowances for children and young people. The scheme is open to children and young people who:

- don't have access to a fixed broadband connection
- cannot afford the additional data needed to access educational resources or social care services.
- have access to a mobile device that uses a participating network (list below).
- are facing disruption to their face-to-face education, or have been advised not to attend school.

To qualify, children must:

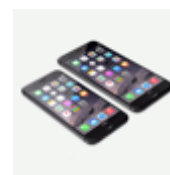
- have no broadband connection at home.
- cannot afford additional data.

One of the following must also apply:

- Child should be in Years 3 – 11 and have had their face to face education disrupted.
- Child is clinically extremely vulnerable and needs to shield.
- Child lives in a home that's been advised to shield because a family member is clinically extremely vulnerable.
- Child cannot attend school – even though it is open – because restrictions prevent it.

Participating networks are as follows:

- EE
- Sky Mobile
- Smarty
- Tesco Mobile
- Three
- Virgin Mobile



The offers depend on the network provider. We are told that the provider will text when the free data has been activated and when the free data will end. The data can be used to tether a mobile to another device for internet access.

(Please note that Sky Mobile will not include Pay as you go customers in the offer)

If you meet the criteria and would like us to submit a request for an increase in mobile data allowance, please email admin@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk with the following information:

- account holder name
- mobile phone number (this should always start with '07')
- Name of mobile network provider
- Confirmation whether the account holder has a contract or a Pay-as-you-go deal.

We need these details to submit a request for an increase in data with the relevant mobile network.

Account holders with monthly contracts need to be over the age of 18.

Please read the following [privacy notice](#)

Please note that the school are simply able to submit information. We cannot answer specific questions about entitlement and we have no responsibility for how the data is used.

On-Line safety

How do I keep my child safe whilst accessing remote learning?

Parents need to make sure that children are supervised whilst using the internet to ensure that they are only accessing content that is appropriate to them. Children have had online safety lessons in school and should be aware of how to keep themselves safe online and what to do if they don't feel safe (remind them of the SMART rules).

It would be a good idea to ask your child to tell you ways in which they can keep themselves safe while using the internet so that you as a parent can ensure that they understand. It is also important that you consider the amount of time that your child is spending online and sitting at a tablet/computer screen. Make sure that you build in time for breaks so that children are not looking at a screen for long periods of time.

**KEEP YOUR KIDS
SAFE Online**



Home Reading

If you are searching for reading resources to use at home then please have a look at the [Oxford Owl for School and Home](#) website. It is free for parents to register and gives access to a massive range of eBooks, which can be sorted by age or book band. The book selection is fresh and great.



**Oxford Owl for
School and
Home**

Discover expert advice, educational resources and free eBooks to support children's learning at primary school and at home, from Oxford University Press.

www.oxfordowl.co.uk

Christmas Jumper Day Fundraising Update

We raised a massive amount of money over the two days of Christmas Jumper fun and we've received the money now from JustGiving. Before Christmas we donated £413.45 to Cheshire Without Abuse, the remaining £341.36 will go in to the school budget to benefit our Mablins children.



FOREST SCHOOL CHALLENGE 1

We really hope that you will once again be up for 'Forest School challenges' at home.

This week we would like you to make a bird feeder. This time of year, especially when it's cold, our wild birds often struggle to find enough food. It's a lovely idea to help them out by making a feeder and in return we'll be rewarded by the sight of birds visiting our garden.

HOW TO MAKE A BIRD FEEDER

A list of things you will need:

- An open pine cone
- Vegetable fat or lard
- Small bird seed
- Mixing Bowl
- String



Method

- Tie a length of string to the top of the pine cone
- Soften the fat with your hands or mix it with a wooden spoon
- Add the bird seed a little at a time until it sticks together
- Gently squash the mixture into all the holes on your pine cone
- Roll the cone in more seed to coat the outside of the cone
- Tie your finished feeder to a tree branch

If you don't have a pinecone, it's possible to make a feeder from a cardboard tube, like those found in kitchen rolls.

- Spread the tube with vegetable fat or lard
- Roll the tube in bird seed
- Feed a length of string through the tube and tie it from a branch

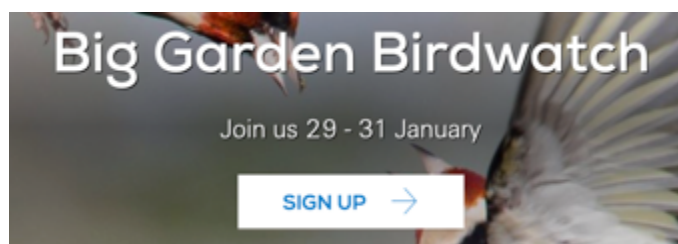


Please send any photos of your bird feeders to deputy@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk. We can't wait to see your creations 😊

RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch

If you do decide to make a bird feeder you could also sign up for the Big Garden Birdwatch that's taking place nationally on the 29 – 31 January. Just sit and watch the birds for an hour and log how many bird types visit, to find out more go to the rspb website.

<https://www.rspb.org.uk>



Kids Planet

Breakfast and after school club has stayed open for parents who need to drop off and collect outside of school hours. Kids Planet have measures in place to safeguard the children, and reduce contact between pods. Their Pre-School also remains open at this time.



Covid-19

Although there is a new strain the guidance for Covid still gives the main symptoms as;

- New and persistent dry cough
- High temperature
- Loss of taste /smell

Should your child present with any of these symptoms they should **not go out**, but you should **seek a test**.

YOUR CHILD SHOULD NOT ATTEND SCHOOL IF THEY ARE SHOWING ANY OF THE ABOVE SYMPTOMS OR IF ANYBODY IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD IS SHOWING THOSE SYMPTOMS.

Please follow the guidance to help keep everybody safe.

IMPORTANT

Covid- 19 Telephone Number

If your child has a Covid test and it is positive you must inform the school immediately by calling our Covid telephone line on:

**MABLINS LANE COVID POSITIVE TEST REPORTING
TELEPHONE NO.**

07415 005702

This number is **ONLY** for reporting a positive test.

Illness

Whilst we are all being vigilant for COVID symptoms, please let us not forget that the children may just get a winter cold or a tummy bug. If your child is unwell in any way then please keep them at home in order to contain the spread of germs.

Applying for a September 2021 School place!

Parents of children who will be starting school in September 2021 have until **15th January 2021. TOMORROW!!!** If you have not yet applied for a school place, or know somebody who has a child of school age, then please register on the Cheshire East website **immediately**. Any requests received after tomorrow will be considered as 'late applications' and parents cannot be guaranteed a school of their choice.

Free School Meals

Are you entitled to Free School Meals?

Each child that qualifies for Income Related FSM (not UIFSM for children in KS1 and reception) would receive £15 per week in shopping vouchers whilst schools are closed. To check if this applies to you, click on the link below, to see if you meet the criteria. Applying for FSM also attracts over £1000 of funding in to school which helps to support the children, for example helping to fund your child's school trips.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>



Free School Meal Voucher System

The Free School Meal voucher system will be re-instated **week commencing 18th January 2021**. Schools must wait to be invited to place an order; as soon as we are in receipt of the vouchers we will distribute them.



Year Group - Email Address
Mablins Lane CP School

Please use **ONLY** the following email addresses to contact your child's class teacher. They will respond during the school working hours of between 9.00am and 4.30pm, please note that many of the teachers are still in school and teaching key worker children.

eyfs@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk

year1@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk

year2@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk

year3@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk

year4@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk

year5@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk

year6@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk

URGENT APPEAL - Crossing Patrol

A replacement still has to be found for our crossing patrol.

Unfortunately Transport Services Solutions do not have the position advertised. They won't advertise until they have completed a monitoring visit and they should have done that last week.



They are now telling us that they won't complete the monitoring visit when they know that 'traffic' (cars and pedestrians) are not as usual.

We have had 2 expressions of interest from parents – but can't do anything until the monitoring visit has been completed. This seems nonsense.

Please could I ask parents to lobby the Local Authority in order to get our crossing operational again.

In the interim, I have to inform parents that the crossing will not be supervised so additional care will be required.

School Meals - Cashless Payments

Please can we remind parents about the Cheshire East epayments system. Payments for school meals **should where possible be made online** via the

[Cheshire East School Epayments Portal](#)

If parents are unsure how to do this then please ask at the school office or refer to the [online parent guide](#) below.

Reminder - Clap for Heroes

People are invited to clap at 8pm on a Thursday evening. The aim is to "lift the spirit of all of us" including "all who are pushing through this difficult time." If you have any pictures that you would like to share with us then please



email: deputy@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk

Have a good week everybody.

Stay Home, Stay Safe.

Take care and look after yourselves.

With kind regards

Justine Joule - Headteacher

