

Mablins Lane Community Primary School Newsletter ~ 21st January 2021

Dear Parents and Children

Our third week of term has been dark and rainy. Christmas seems a distant memory and the warm, light days of Spring seem very far away. It is hard to be positive with such gloom around us, but search out those rays of sunshine because they are there. Look into your children's faces and find the joy. The engagement of our families continues to be outstanding and we are so pleased by the increasing support.



Good Afternoon All Year 3 Staff,

I just wanted to send a quick thank you email and to say how well set up you are with Teams teaching the classes, M is only using online learning when I'm off on a Monday but she's loved today, and just got on with the tasks set very well on her own.

Thanks again and keep safe.

A huge thank you to the whole team for all the hard work to set up and run the remote learning so efficiently: the learning is comprehensive, engaging, accessible and the feedback for the work submitted punctual and helpful.

Thank you to you and the rest of the year 3 teachers for all your hard work. I know it's a steep learning curve figuring out all this remote learning, and rest assured you're not alone in it! I know Q is very happy when he gets real teachers this time in lockdown and is doing much better for you being there.

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.

Positive Cases

It feels like we are hearing of more cases locally and more people are self-isolating due to Track and



Trace contacts. Teachers, Teaching assistants, Middays and cleaners have been impacted this week by Track and Trace contacts that have led to self-isolation. At all times we review the situation and adjust teams as necessary to cater for the children in school.

Last Saturday morning (16th Jan) I was informed of a positive case in the Y5 pod. Immediately all the close contacts were identified and telephoned. This has led to 12 children, 1 teacher and 1 teaching assistant requiring isolation until Sunday 25th January. Those children who were not in contact in the specified period were able to come to school this week and the Y5 team re-organised to accommodate this. The pod was also re-located to allow deep cleaning just as a precaution.

School Attendance – Key workers

ONLY COME TO SCHOOL ON THE DAYS YOU NEED TO!

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 informed parents of the large number of pupils accessing key worker places. (More than 30% of the school.) This positive case highlights the potential for transmission. I have had further requests this week and have now set up a waiting list for places. We cannot currently take any additional pupils.

Many thanks as parents are only sending their children on the days they need. (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.

Start and End of the Day

The number of parents and children accessing the premises at the start and end of the day has been greatly reduced, but please can I remind parents to park responsibly, and be mindful of pedestrians. There should be no dropping off on the 'zig zag' lines, or driving in to the school gateways or on to the school premises. We still don't have a crossing patrol so extra vigilance is needed on Parker's Road. Our PCSO has been supporting us and has been to supervise this week.

Stranger Danger

Whilst our PCSO was outside school this week he approached a gentleman who appeared to be acting suspiciously on Parkers Road. Following a conversation with the man all seemed to be legitimate, but this was passed on to school. Whilst the children were at no point in danger it is good to remind your children of the 'stranger danger' rules.

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 is 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.

Assemblies THIS week on TEAMS

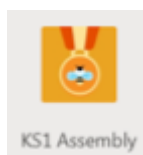


Mablins Virtual School Assembly

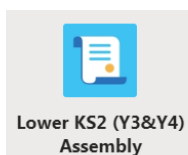
We would really like it if children in school and at home could join us for our **Friday Celebration Assembly**.



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



KS1 Assembly



Lower KS2 (Y3&Y4)
Assembly



Upper KS2 (Y5&Y6)
Assembly

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

Remote Learning



The Government has asked that primary school children access 3 hours of learning every day. We are passionate about children's learning at Mablins Lane School but even more passionate about their well-being.

As a school, we will provide the resources for this amount of learning. However, we are in the midst of a global pandemic – children need **fresh air and exercise** and **fun and laughter** to nourish their minds and bodies. You are juggling many things and **you are doing a fabulous job**; as well as contributing to reducing this virus by keeping your children at home. You are **doing the best you can**; it is **good enough** so don't beat yourselves up. Be present for your children, **enjoy their company** – they will grow up all too soon.



Please get in touch with us if you need any support with home learning, just do what you can and we are here if you need anything!

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

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.



These laptops are currently being allocated to families who are struggling at home to access remote learning. Parents will need to sign an agreement with the school to accept responsibility for

the device and return it to us once children return back to school.

If you are struggling with remote learning then please get in touch with us, we also have a small number of laptops (these are being given to children in ALL year groups) that have been donated to us and we really want these to go to children who need them most.

Please email: deputy@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk

Thank you so much for the amazing laptops that we have had kindly donated by Crewe FC. They will help our Mablins Team children access home learning, and we are really grateful for all their support!



Home learning technology – Further Laptops donated by Councillors Crewe/Nantwich

Thank you also to a collective group of Councillors for the Crewe and Nantwich area, for getting us additional laptops for children to use at home. Please see their appeal face book page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/224103675938547/>
Councillor, Crewe Central - Anthony Critchley dropped 10 devices off today and these will be going out to families this week! Thank you so much!



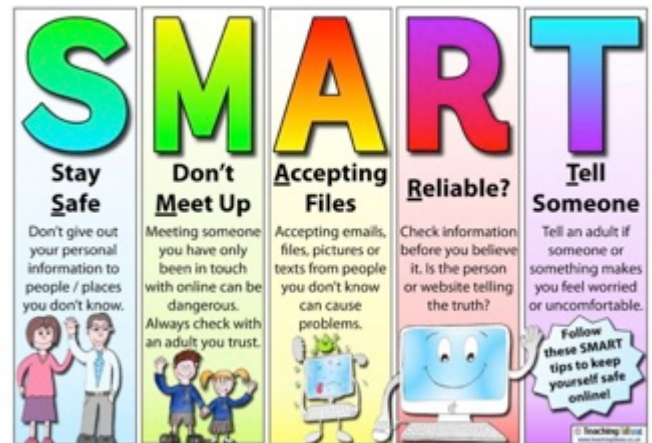
On-Line safety

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.

Home Learning Packs

We have been providing home learning packs for some children who have limited access to technology. Following the distribution of laptops to some families we are hoping that this can now be reduced. Whilst we are happy to provide a paper pack, this does involve much time and paper and is not very environmentally friendly. It also means additional contact with the school office. **Please only request a paper pack as a last resort. Thank you.**

Reading

Last week we sent out a link to [Oxford Owl for School and Home](#) website. It is free for parents to register and gives access to a massive range of eBooks that can be sorted by age or book band.

This week we would like direct you to another free resource for reading:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-55692137>



FOREST SCHOOL CHALLENGE 2

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

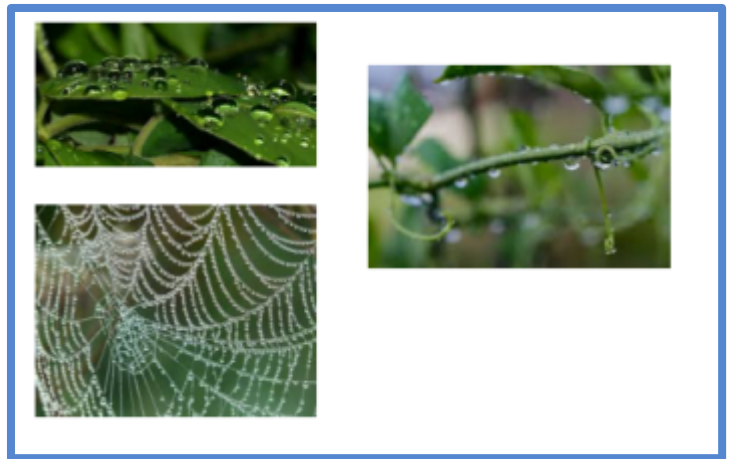
This week we would like you to have a

WATER DROPLET SCAVENGER HUNT

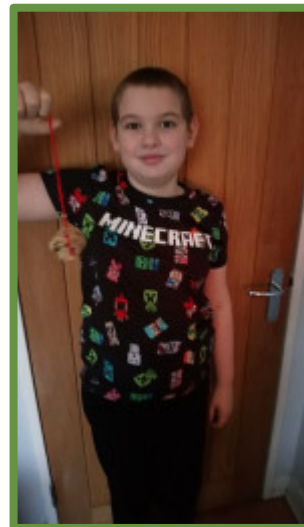
We've had a lot of rain recently, but have you ever searched for raindrops?

Wait until the rain has stopped then hunt outside for droplets of rain. You might find them on leaves, twigs or spider webs. If you have one, you could examine them through a magnifying glass.

- Have they pooled together somewhere to make a miniature pond?
- Can you see your reflection in them?
- Where else might you find them?



Thank you to all the children that had a go at the bird feeders last week!



Please send any photos to

deputy@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk

Home Learning

Thank you to all the children that are sending in photos of remote/home learning. YOU are doing an amazing job and WE are so proud of you all! Keep sending photos in via TEAMS or by email to deputy@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk

This week the children in Year 1 were tasked to make boats, they are fantastic and we LOVE them!



Audio Books – VLE

We have updated the website with a range of Audio books for the children to enjoy. Password for the audio book section is at the top of your Year Group VLE page. Direct link to page below;

<https://mablinslaneschool.co.uk/audio-stories/>



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 has measures in place to safeguard the children and reduce contact between pods. 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**.

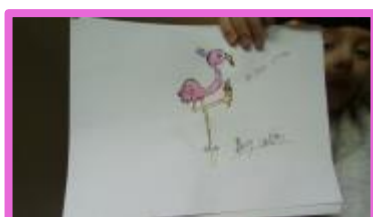
YOUR CHILD SHOULD NOT ATTEND SCHOOL IF THEY ARE SHOWING ANY OF THE ABOVE SYMPTOMS OR IF ANYBODY IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD IS SHOWING THOSE SYMPTOMS.

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 anyway then please keep them at home in order to contain the spread of germs.

Free School Meals

Are you entitled to Free School Meals? Go to the link below to see if you meet the specified criteria. Applying for FSM 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>

Now that schools have restricted opening again the Free School Voucher scheme has been reinstated from Monday 18th January. Those on our FSM register should have received an email to confirm the arrangements. Each child that qualifies for Income Related FSM (not UIFSM) will receive £15 per week in shopping vouchers. If you are uncertain about qualification then please telephone or contact the school office: admin@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk



Children's Check in

CHECK IN

During this time, we want to reach out to you and offer our support as much as we can.

If you are feeling lonely, if someone is being unkind online, or if you would just like to check in with us, please get in touch.

Just like in school, you can reach out to talk to us by emailing: mlcps@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk



Year Group - Email Address Mablins Lane CP School

Just a reminder that our year group email addresses are still operational.

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 that has now been delayed. 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

