

15th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to this weeks newsletter, there is a lot to share this week.



Mrs Seabright's message - Recorded whole school assembly

Please click on this link to view Mrs Seabright's whole school assembly this week. Thank you to all the staff for their efforts in trialing Live lessons. From the feedback we had in the staff meeting last night the biggest celebration is that children and parents are finding home learning much more fun at home and more children are engaging in their learning. Live learning is also already having a bigger impact on engagement in writing which is fantastic. We must however, ensure to take the Live learning slowly and leaders and staff in school will continue to reflect and improve on this new way of learning. We thank all our parents for their continued support too.

Please join our Live Whole School assembly on Monday next week at 11am. The link will be posted on Class Dojo on Monday morning.

<https://vimeo.com/500172876>

Support for learning at home

We must say a special thank you to Mrs Griffin for supporting teachers and children regarding home learning. Please find attached the videos that Mrs Griffin has recorded to support families at home.

This one supports families about how to log into class dojo as a parent and the child's account:

http://www.alexandrapark.oldham.sch.uk/?page_id=5878



This video is about how to access TEAMS and access the Live lessons taking place in school:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yPQIDqt4Rdc>

Home Learning support for Parents (sent from the Local Authority)

In response to the recent closure of schools to most pupils, the EEF has produced a set of resources for parents to support effective home learning. These are all based on the evidence-based recommendations in the EEF's guidance reports. These resources outline straightforward ways in which parents can identify learning opportunities in everyday routines and build them into their home life. There is also guidance for supporting children's behavioural, emotional and social needs at this time.

In recognition that while staying at home due to coronavirus, parents and carers may be worried about their children's development and the effect of missing school or nursery, the DfE have produced materials to help parents and carers to support their children's learning while dealing with other demands.

The National Literacy Trust has developed a parent-facing platform, [Words for Life](#). The platform includes fun and easy activities for all children aged 0-12.

For children aged 13+, why not have a look at [Zone In](#)? Here you'll find the best tips to boost young adults' reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.



Spelling Shed Winners

Congratulations to our top speller this week Laiba A (Class 6) with an incredible 123,647,222 points. Be very proud indeed!
Keep practising children!

Place	Winners	Total points awarded for correct spellings
1st	Class 6	127,489,832
2nd	Class 8	60,850,308
3rd	Class 11	11,073,822

TT Rockstars

Fastest three classes

Name	Avg Speed (s/q) ↑
Class 7	2.30
Class 5	2.40
Class 11	2.41



Classes with the most children playing on TTRS the last 7 days

Class 9 45%
Class 7 27%
Class 8 26%

Well done to those children continuing with learning and practising their times tables.

Free school Meal Vouchers

We have now received more guidance regarding the Free School Meal Vouchers and we thank parents for their patience in this. As advised by the government we will now be using the supplier Edenred. We hope to begin issuing vouchers to our families from the week commencing the 18th of January. For more information about using this system please click on the following link.

<https://www.edenred.co.uk/dfe-freeschoolmeals-administrators/>

Free School Meal Eligibility

The eligibility criteria for free school meals can be found at [apply for free school meals](#).

During the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, we have temporarily extended free school meals eligibility to include some groups who have no recourse to public funds (NRPF).

This temporary extension is continuing and covers both pupils who are attending school and who are at home due to coronavirus (COVID-19).

See guidance on the [temporary extension of free school meals eligibility to NRPF groups](#) for more information.

Reading books for free from Oldham Library

Families can join the library online today for instant access to ebooks, audiobooks and magazines for children. Attached is a poster for more information.

Children's audiobooks have been very popular during lockdown so staff have added more to Borrow-box and uLibrary.

Research from the Literacy Trust shows that audiobooks can be used to support children's learning.

They found that audiobooks can:

- Improve children's reading skills and enjoyment of reading
- Support children's emotional intelligence and mental wellbeing
- Improve children's reading comprehension
- Widen children's access to books



Emergency support for residents

Attached is a leaflet for families who maybe experiencing financial difficulties. For more information please contact #weareoldham Tel: 0161 770 7007 (9.am to 5.pm weekdays)



IF YOUR CHILD IS UNWELL

Finally, but most importantly, if any child is feeling unwell, please do not bring them to school if they are receiving on-site educational provision and inform the school office.

If your child presents with any Coronavirus symptoms, including a headache, cold symptoms, aching limbs or a stomach upset, then please access a test, self-isolate and only return to school after a negative test result and when symptom free for 48 hours or after their 10 day isolation if positive. Children may only display minor symptoms for a short time and seem to be back to their normal selves after a couple of hours but still be positive and infectious.

If anyone in your household is unwell with any Coronavirus symptoms they should access a test and all household members should begin to isolate immediately.

It is important to be informed or reminded that around 1 in 3 people have no symptoms and could spread Coronavirus without realising it. Government advice is that everyone should act as if they have the virus, even if they do not show symptoms. Anyone can spread the virus so please remember: Hands, Face, Space.



A reminder to parents to send any results to us directly regarding COVID test results. This email is covid@alexandrapark.oldham.sch.uk

If you receive a negative or positive result anytime please email the details to the above. The sooner we are informed the sooner we can allow your child back into school (if there are attending school).

We thank all parents for the immediate responses we have had already. You have certainly worked with staff to support the safety of children and staff with high levels of communication.

**TEST
RESULTS**