King Street Primary & Pre - School

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Spennymoor

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26th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We have reached the end of our spring term and the children are very excited about an Easter break. This week they have visited church, created artwork for the church and shown their creative skills with Easter craft activities. Year 1 have made some fabulous animal shelters and I have observed absolute awe and wonder in Year 4 when they investigated solids, liquids and gases and made their own lava lamps. It was also brilliant to watch Year 6 use their team skills to tip balls from one bucket to another without touching the buckets! Despite displaying much resilience, in the end Mr Colling had to disclose the secret of how it can be done!

I would also like to thank the Town Hall this week for their very kind gesture of an Easter egg for every child in school. This is the perfect way to start the holidays and the children are absolutely delighted!

Holiday Activities with Food

The Local Authority have now released the Covid Winter Grant scheme vouchers to eligible families. If your family was eligible, you will have been contacted by the school office and should now have received your voucher. As these are provided by an external provider, please contact help@durham.gov.uk if you are having difficulty redeeming them.

In addition to this scheme, the Local authority are also providing holiday activities and have asked that we forward the following information that can support families over the holiday period.

“Whether it’s finding fun things for the kids to do, paying for extra childcare, or even just all that extra food they seem to eat, the school holidays can be a struggle for many families. Covid-19 has meant that many people’s incomes have been reduced and children and young people are keen to get out and spend time with their friends.

This Easter we have launched our Fun and Food programme, providing fun activities with healthy snacks and meals for children and young people. Activities are provided by range of partners including schools, voluntary and community sector groups, sport and leisure services and our Family Centres.

For information on Fun and Food activities during the Easter holidays check out [www.durham.gov.uk/FunAndFood](http://www.durham.gov.uk/FunAndFood)

Activities are being added every day so please keep checking our webpage.”

If you believe your circumstances have now changed and your child may be eligible for Free School Meals, please contact the school office with your name, date of birth and national insurance number and we will check your eligibility for you.

**Community services -Food bank and advice hub**

We would like to make you aware that there are some useful community services available on our doorstep. If you need any help and support, including food or financial support, please contact the advice hub. The details are below.

**Spennymoor Trinity Methodist Church, Rosa Street, DL16 7NB**Food bank: Tuesday 10 am – 12 noon every week. Telephone 03000 260260 (option 1)

**Debt Advice** with Penny call 07706297386 or email: Penny@moneyadvicedurham.org.uk

**Citizens Advice** with Natalie call 07824905278 or email: trinityadvicehub@citizensadvicecd.org.uk

**Age UK** email: info@ageukcountydurham.org.uk

After school childcare provision

We are pleased to announce that we will be extending our hours for our childcare services after the Easter break. We will also be offering a 2-tier service and price system. Childcare until 4:15pm will be £4 and childcare until 5:30pm will be £8. We hope this flexibility supports families as they begin to move back into the workplace. If you require a place for your child please contact the school office.

Parents’ meetings

Just a reminder that we will be offering parents’ meetings after Easter to discuss how your child has settled back into school routines. This will be done through your Eschools account. For children in Year 3,4,5 and 6 appointments will be offered for week beginning 19th April. For children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 2, appointments will be offered for week beginning 26th April.

Please note the bookings option on Eschools is not currently open but will open to take your booking from **Monday** **12th April- Friday 16th April for children in Y6,5,4 and 3. For children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 the booking system will open on Monday 19th April- Friday 23rd April. Children in Nursery will be contacted by the class teacher to make an appointment.**

Home time collection

Over the last 2 weeks we have noticed a number of older siblings and former pupils coming onto the school premises to meet up with our current school pupils. Whilst we would usually welcome these children back into school to speak with staff and see old friends, it is not possible in the current situation. Please can you remind any of your older children that they cannot use the school premises to meet up with old friends. Thank you.

Uniform supplies

We have had a number of parents enquire about purchasing uniform for the new school term. There is a ‘shop’ icon link on the front page of our website. Alternatively, you can contact Cre8tive graphics in Bishop Auckland directly at school@cre8ivegraphics.co.uk

Covid reminder

Please do still ensure that over the holidays you continue to follow Government guidelines and if your child presents with any of the Covid symptoms, they must self-isolate along with the rest of the household. Whilst we finish for the holidays today, it is still important that if your child receives a positive test anytime between Saturday 27thth March and the Tuesday 30th March, you must still inform the school by email so we can liaise with Public Health Track and Trace. Please use the title ‘Positive Covid Test’ in the subject line so these emails can be easily identified. This does mean that all parents and carers must continue to check their emails up until 30th March in case we need to inform you of a positive case in school. Thank You. The school email is kingstreet@durhamlearning.net

We hope you all have a wonderful Easter break and that the sun shines so we can enjoy some time outdoors.

We reopen on Monday 12th April.

Yours Sincerely

Joanne Bromley

Head Teacher