

NEWSLINE

March 2020
Issue 9



The diary of a school that is closed but still open. Contributions from members of our wonderful community. Keep them coming. With thanks.

DAY 5 Friday 27th March

11 pupils today. The older ones are certainly enjoying the opportunity to make use of the little people's play equipment. Aimee was appointed Social Distancing Enforcement Officer, a role she is taking very seriously!



Clap for the NHS

An email was received early evening. Here is a bit of it, "As we are drawing near to the first week of closure (non closure) I just wanted to say a big thank you. It just helped me so much knowing that you were all looking after [my daughter] and happy to do so I could then do my job as a nurse and help the system without worrying about her. A big thank you to all the staff that have been in this week too with their creative teaching, play and food. North is so community orientated and all of us that have children there are very lucky."

I shared this message with staff who then went out into their streets at 8.00pm to clap and cheer for the NHS with even more passion. Emails like that are a clear reminder of how vital the NHS is at the present time. And it is great to know that by remaining open we are able to make a small contribution to this national effort.

DAY 6 Monday 30th March 2020

10 Pupils today.

They gave Joe Wicks a day off and the children began the morning with a workout to Cosmic Yoga. She has daily themes and today was FROZEN, which went down very well with the younger girls.

It was good to open emails first thing sent in over the weekend. Lots of busy families. Keep them coming. Another email was received from Susan Sydenham from Eld Lane Church. Year 6s would have been visiting there this week for their *Easter Cracked* event. Susan passed on her best wishes and reassured us they would find a way to make sure all the Year 6s get a copy of *It's Your Move* before the end of the summer term.



Leon and Liam proudly showing off their rainbow designs. They will stick them on their bedroom windows tonight.

Good News to Share

As you know, we are already very thankful to Cliqq, a local media company, which has made a film of a day in the life of our reception classes that we planned to show to premiere to the children in May before sharing with our September 2020 starters at a parents meeting later that month.. That is looking unlikely. But we still need to premiere the film so we will be holding the Film's Premiere in September for the 60 little stars of the film, and their families too of course, in the Firstsite cinema. We will all dress to impress, there will be paparazzi and an after-party. Something special to which we can all look forward. **Thank You Cliqq and Thank You Firstsite.**

PLEASE NOTE

Page 2 looks the same and key contact information will remain on it but it does get updated so please read that page too.

“Everyone is feeling extremely anxious and concerned about the weeks ahead and making plans to fill your children’s time. You may have high hopes for hours of learning including online activities, science experiments and book reviews. In many ways it is good to have a timetable to maintain normality, but these are not normal times. Children are confused, anxious and upset even though some may initially celebrate no school! Their reality is now not seeing their friends or running off energy at playtime or sharing stories of their weekend. A large proportion of your time will be spent comforting and reassuring your children. You can bake, play board games, race around the garden, learn to juggle, explore new topics on the internet or even just snuggle under a blanket on the sofa watching films. If I can leave you with a thought before the home schooling adventure begins, it is that the happiness and security of your children is far more important than their academic progress. The weeks ahead will have an impact on all of us, aim to do something uplifting which brings optimism so that your children will remember positive family time rather than fear and anxiety.”

Keeping in touch whilst the school is “closed”.

Whilst your children are not at school please remember the following:

Email or ring the school if you need advice on parenting. We will endeavour to respond as soon as we can.

In a crisis ring:

NSPCC 0808 800 5000
Family Operations Hub 0345 603 7627

If you have money/housing worries contact Colchester Borough Council 01206 282222.

If you need help with food contact the school to get a virtual foodbank voucher.

School Nurse. Tracy MacDougall, the school nurse will be keeping in touch with some families.

Family Support Worker, Amanda Rowe, will no longer be doing home visits but will support families over the phone.

Join the Thursday 5.00pm Club

Visit **COLCHESTER PARENTING** on Facebook and access lots of fun, creative activities.

Dear Families of North,
Be creative!
If you have any instrument - play it,
Write a song - sing it,
It doesn't matter if you think you are able to or not.
Remember this:
“When you pick up that instrument,
When you make up that song,
When you then get your family to sing along, others listen whenever they can, You will have created a thing that is new, And the world will be happier, all because of you.”
I look forward to hearing all the beautiful music that I know you can all create when we are all back together again.
Stay Safe Mr Bosch

Achieve a Balance

Companies are getting involved and many are offering free resources. Click on this link to find out just some of what is available out there. <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2020/mar/29/learning-apps-for-stir-crazy-kids-while-schools-are-closed>

If you come across a useful app or site let us know and we will share with other families.

Mix up home learning with fun things to do together

EXERCISE & GET LOTS OF FRESH AIR

BAKE

LEARN A NEW SKILL TOGETHER— YOUTUBE IS GREAT FOR DIY GUIDES

Get the children to watch their favourite DVD films with the sound down and subtitles on and get them to read in the voice of the characters!

YOGA

The children in school.

Their teacher, Naomi

lessons online.

could teach you. Many do it

Davies, will also put

COMING SOON

TERM DATES

7th September 2020

First day of new school year

GARDENING

Mon 7th September 2020

Year 6 Residential to Weymouth