

Dilhorne Endowed Spring Term Newsletter January 2021

School Contact Details



Telephone: 01538 702355 option
Email: office@dilhorne.staffs.sch.uk



: Dilhorne Endowed Primary School Update Page
Website: www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk

Dates may change due to COVID-19



Friday 12th February 2021
Monday 22nd February
Thursday 1st April
Monday 19th April
Monday 3rd May
Friday 28th May
Monday 7th June
Friday 16th July

School closes for half-term
School re-opens
School closes for the Easter holiday
School opens for the summer term
May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)
School closes for half-term
School re-opens
School closes for pupils



A helping Hand With Meals

During these uncertain times, we understand that families may have had a change in circumstances. Whichever year group your child is in, if you think you may now be eligible for income-based Free School Meals, we would urge you to submit an application. This also applies to children who currently receive a lunch due to being in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2.

During this period of school closure, children who are eligible to receive income-based Free School Meals will have the option to receive e-vouchers.

Applications are quick and easy with an instant yes, or no answer as to your entitlement. The link can be found on the website at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Educational-awards-benefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Apply-online



Are you entitled?

Please contact us at office@dilhorne.staffs.sch.uk if you qualify.



At the moment, Mrs Massey is working from home on Wednesdays. Messages left on the school office phone will be picked up throughout the day. However, in an emergency, Mrs Massey can be contacted on the school mobile number 0771 1007072.

Pupils who are attending, need to be in school by 9.00am prompt so that we can start the TEAMS link-up on time with those pupils working from home.

STAY AT HOME



PROTECT THE NHS



SAVE LIVES



Growing in Faith and Learning

FROST, ICE AND SNOW

In line with COVID-19 guidelines, our Key Worker children continue to spend as much time as possible outside, farming, forest schooling, playing or building snowmen! Would you please ensure that children bring a warm coat, hat and gloves as we have now completely used up all our spares.

In the unusual (and rare!) event that we have to close due to health and safety issues caused by snow or ice, we will endeavour to contact you through text message and also aim to also put a message on the school website (www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk).

With this in mind, please remember to keep the school office updated with any change in contact details, should, for example, Santa have brought you a new phone for Christmas!



Arbor

Thank you to those who have already logged on our new Arbor Parent Portal. In just two weeks we have had a 70% uptake, which is amazing!

The portal can be used to access your child/children's profiles and to top up your child's dinner and Wrap Around accounts.

We have found that the desktop version of Arbor works best on a laptop, or tablet, where there is an add to basket feature for topping up different accounts. There is an app version available for smart phones, however this does not have the add to basket feature at present.

All outstanding balances/credits have been added to your child's accounts, for you to see, we would appreciate any outstanding payments being made as soon as possible.

We would now kindly ask that you "top up" online and refrain from sending cash payments to school if at all possible.

If you are having trouble accessing or navigating the site, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to help.

IT'S GOOD TO TALK

Don't wait until you can't cope before you seek help. For good days, bad days and all the in-between days, there are lots of places you can turn to for support.



IT'S ALWAYS OK TO ASK FOR HELP

THANK YOU AND STAY SAFE

We would like to extend a huge thank you to our Dilhorne family, for embracing our remote learning, through Microsoft Teams. It has been lovely to see so many of our pupils during the online sessions, alongside teaching the children of Key Workers within the classroom, and we really appreciate the positive feedback we have received.

The work that our children have been submitting (often with your help!) has been amazing. It is fabulous to see the effort and commitment that our Dilhorne children are showing, during these difficult and challenging times. We do appreciate that this is not always easy and can be, at times taxing and frustrating, but it is for the best reason. By adhering to the government guidelines and staying at home, wherever possible, we are playing our part in the battle against Covid-19. Staff are now testing twice a week in order to keep our school Covid free.

Thank you for working with us. Please remember if you need our help, we are here.

Take care and please stay safe.

ADVICE ON HOW TO KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE

As you may now be using online devices on a daily basis to support learning, or perhaps your child has received a Playstation, Xbox, Nintendo Switch, tablet, laptop, mobile phone etc for Christmas, we are sure that you will agree that it is essential your child is safe in the online world. Therefore, we wanted to share some e-safety advice.



6 essentials to keep your children safe online - Follow this list to help keep your children safe online:

1. **Use parental controls** to block upsetting or harmful content, control in-app purchases, or manage how long your child spends online. They're really easy to set up too. More information about setting controls on mobiles, tablets, home broadband, games consoles, apps, wifi, films, music and TV is on the NSPCC web pages, (www.nspcc.org.uk) and there's a useful helpline number too.
2. **Regularly remind your children not to give out personal information**, like their address, phone number, school name, or email address. It can be easy to forget with live streaming videos (like YouTube) that anyone could be watching and it's important not to give away too much information about *themselves*.
3. **Get to know the games, apps and social media sites they use**. Learn how to use them yourself and how their 'privacy', 'block' and 'reporting' settings work.
4. **Make sure they know that people aren't always who they say they are online** and that they don't accept friend requests from people they don't know (even if the person has mutual friends, it doesn't mean they can be trusted).
5. **Talk about the risks of sharing photos** online, or sending them to others. Once they're out there, they're out there!
6. **Let them know that you're listening** and want to know if anything at all makes them feel uncomfortable online, no matter what.

*Please also make yourself aware of the age restriction of certain social media platforms, for example **Whatsapp is for 16+, Snapchat is for 13+, and TikTok is for 13+.***

*Please also be aware of the content of online gaming, for example, **Fortnite is rated as suitable for 12+.** These controls are to there to simply keep your child safe in the online world.*

Need to know more?

These are the places you can find good advice and guidance:

NSPCC (www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/) great for easy-to-follow parental control guides and knowing what to talk about;

Think u know (www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents) great if you're concerned, need to understand social media or are worried about online abuse;

Staffordshire Police (<https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/police-forces/staffordshire-police/areas/staffordshire-police/campaigns/2019/cyber-bullying/>) explains cyber bullying and online harassment;

Internetmatters (www.internetmatters.org) great for cyberbullying advice;

CEOP Child exploitation and online protection command (www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre) - if you suspect abuse report it to one of their specialist advisers now.

Advice on keeping children safe can also be found on our school website, **www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk**

We hope you find the above information useful, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

AT HOME SHOULDN'T MEAN AT RISK OF DOMESTIC ABUSE

#YOUARENOTALONE



If you are controlled or physically, sexually, economically or emotionally abused by a partner, ex-partner or family member, this is domestic abuse. Household isolation rules do not apply.

Police and support services remain available.

If you are in immediate danger, or suspect someone else is, call 999.

If you are unable to talk, call 999, listen to the operator and then either press 55 on a mobile, when prompted, or wait on a landline to be connected to the police, who will be able to help.

If you're worried you, or someone you know, may be experiencing domestic abuse:

Refuge The Freephone 24-hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline run by Refuge offers support for women: 0808 2000 247

Respect
Men's advice line

The free Respect Men's Advice Line offers support for men: 0808 801 0327



Galop's free National LGBTQ+ Domestic Abuse Helpline offers support for LGBTQ+ people: 0800 999 5428

Respect
Phoneline

The free Respect Phoneline offers support for men and women who are harming their partners and families: 0808 802 4040

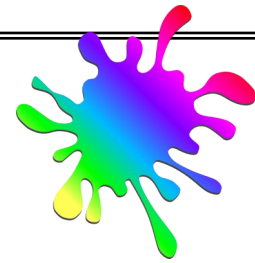
NSPCC

The free NSPCC helpline offers support for anyone worried about a child: 0808 800 5000

Find more support, online and text relay services at [gov.uk/domestic-abuse](https://www.gov.uk/domestic-abuse)

Wellbeing Wednesday

On the afternoon of Wednesday 3rd February, we will be hosting an online wellbeing event for all pupils. More details to follow early next week.



Dilhorne PTFA are holding a colouring competition, open to all pupils. The theme is draw/paint your favourite animal from school. Is it Nibbles the goat or Cookie the duck?

Entry is free and there will be a prize per class.

Entries can either be sent to the PTFA via Facebook Messenger or via email – dilhorneptfa@live.co.uk

Please include the child's first name and class.

Closing date is Tuesday 9th February. All entries need to be in beforehand. We will announce the winners on the Dilhorne PTFA Facebook page before the end of term.



As you may be aware, Dilhorne Primary School are proud to be Gold members of the School Games programme. During 'normal' times, many of the sports events and competitions that we enter link back to our School Games status.

Following the announcement of the partial school closures, School Games have shared a virtual challenge to help keep children active. As a school we are incredibly keen that the children are as sporty and active as possible. This is particularly important if they are spending lots of time inside, accessing their home learning. The challenge is to see how many miles the children can cover by running, cycling or walking, by 23rd February. More information and a Tracker sheet will be sent out by email.

You will need to send your completed tracker to the following link by 23rd February. Certificates will then be sent to those who have participated and/or completed the challenge.

We hope that lots of you will engage with this challenge, as we are sure that you are already making the most of outdoor exercise in line with current government guidelines. There are many apps available to assist in tracking your miles and to help you find local walks. Two of our favourites are CountIt, which is a tracking app and [footpathmap.co.uk](https://www.footpathmap.co.uk), which shows all public footpaths in your vicinity.

Once you have completed your attached tracker please send it to <https://forms.gle/ko9Qt3CVb2T9y7qd6>