

Keeping in touch, Edition 2

I do hope you are all keeping well. As we approach the Easter break, I thought I would provide an update.

Free School Meals (not universal free school meals which all KS1 pupils receive):

If you are a family who is entitled to Free School Meals and are facing financial hardship, please contact the school via office@collier-street.kent.sch.uk.

Learning at home:

As previously explained, work to be completed at home will be issued by Thursday 16th April. I understand that you may have some queries or perhaps your child would like to write a message to their teacher. In order to facilitate this, each class will have an e-mail address as follows:

Russet – russet@collier-street.kent.sch.uk

Pippin – pippin@collier-street.kent.sch.uk

Bramley- bramley@collier-street.kent.sch.uk

Discovery – discovery@collier-street.kent.sch.uk

Staff will be checking these accounts from 9.30- 10.30am Monday to Friday. We are aware that this can be no substitute for actually being at school and as such, I'm afraid it isn't a facility to have an on-going 2 way conversation. However, staff will do their best to respond to your query. This will commence on the first day back after the Easter break.

Provision for Key-Workers

Following the Easter break, the local church schools are going to have a co-ordinated approach to providing a child minding service for those in our community who are essential to keeping our much needed services going at this time. Therefore any families from Collier Street who require this service should make their way to the hosting school listed below. One member of teaching staff from each school will be on site for the complete week so that there's a familiar face that the children can go to. The schedule is as follows:

16/17 th April	Yalding School
w.b. 20 th April	Hunton School
w.b. 27 th April	St. Margaret's, Collier Street School
w.b. 4 th May	Yalding School
w.b. 11 th May	Hunton School

w.b. 18th May St. Margaret's Collier Street School

This will operate from 8.45 – 3.15pm.

Phone numbers (for contact during hours of provision):

Yalding 01622 814298

Hunton 01622 820360

Please do not assume that schools will be shut right through to the May holiday but we thought it was better to plan ahead.

Safeguarding:

If you are worried about the safety of a child you should contact social services. They are available on 03000 416161 or if you feel you need to contact school for anything, please e-mail office@collier-street.kent.sch.uk. This account is being checked at least once a day.

School Office:

After the Easter holidays, either myself, Mrs Bentley or Ms Coker are at school from 8.30 – 3.15pm so you could always try to phone but if the issue is urgent, please use the office e-mail.

Wellbeing

In these different times it is important to consider our mental wellbeing as well as our physical wellbeing. There is recent government guidance covering this, 'Guidance for the public on the mental health and wellbeing aspects of coronavirus (COVID-19)'.

This considers 'What can help your mental health and wellbeing' and there are a number of clear and practical approaches listed in this section.

This government guidance also has advice and links on the following;

- financial support
- caring for others
- taking medication
- information written for people with a learning disability
- advice for people with autism

Please see the link below for the full document:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-public-on-mental-health-and-wellbeing/guidance-for-the-public-on-the-mental-health-and-wellbeing-aspects-of-coronavirus-covid-19>

Other news:

Assessments/ Testing

The government confirmed that none of the planned testing (Year 1 phonics, Year 2 SATS, Year 4 multiplication tables check or Year 6 SATS) will take place this academic year.

Year R offers:

Thursday 16th April is the official day that the Local Authority informs families of offers for a Year R place in September 2020. Please be aware that this may be delayed.

Year 6 Residential, June 2020

At this stage we haven't been informed if this will be cancelled. I will let you know as soon as I hear anything.

Although it will be held in the most unusual circumstances, I do hope you can make the most of the Easter holiday whilst adhering to the latest government advice.

With best wishes,

Mr Ryan