

TEMPLEMOOR INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY 13TH JANUARY 2021



Happy New Year

I hope that you all managed to have an enjoyable Christmas break. It seems so strange to be wishing you all a 'Happy New Year' when we are currently in a full national lockdown for the second time. However, I think we have lots of reasons to welcome 2021. The greatest one is that a vaccination has been created that should rid us of this dreadful virus and the roll out is underway. So, on that optimistic note, I wish you all a very Happy New Year!

I am sure you were all as frustrated as I was with the timing and announcement of this lockdown. This is not the way we wanted to start the Spring Term. Our teaching staff had worked hard over the Christmas break to plan for the children's return to school. I was honestly shocked to open school on Monday to then be told at 8pm on the same day that we had to close. However, staying positive, we are all so delighted that we had the opportunity of seeing all of the children on Monday 4th and hearing all about Father Christmas visiting them and the lovely Christmas they all had.

So, looking ahead, we must now all follow Government regulations, restricting the number of children in school and return to providing remote learning for children who are at home. As a school community we are resilient and we will all battle on to ensure that the needs of the children are met.

Whenever I receive information which is pertinent to you I will update you, but please remember I will only ever communicate facts, and will never deal in speculation; especially regarding when we may be open to everyone again. As you all know from the last full lockdown, I find out about announcements regarding school at the same time as you do, so thank you in advance for your support and understanding.

We are so looking forward to welcoming all of the children back to Templemoor when we are able to do so. Hopefully all our combined efforts will very much shorten the duration of this lockdown.

Take good care and keep smiling.

With my very best wishes,

Mr Hodgson - Headteacher





Getting in Touch

If you need to contact your child's teacher regarding remote learning then please do so via the remote learning email address and not by emailing the school office. These are there for you and your child to let the teacher know how you have found the work and to clarify any questions you may have. Emails will be monitored by staff during school hours and responded to accordingly. Please note that all teachers are working in school so it may not be an instant reply.

N	nursery@templemoor.trafford.sch.uk
R	bees@templemoor.trafford.sch.uk ladybirds@templemoor.trafford.sch.uk
Year 1	class3@templemoor.trafford.sch.uk class4@templemoor.trafford.sch.uk
Year 2	class1@templemoor.trafford.sch.uk class2@templemoor.trafford.sch.uk

The whole staff team are working so hard to enable us to offer the best for our children and families. Please ensure that any communication continues to be respectful, including any comments made in forums such as WhatsApp. As always, this incredible team are having to respond to completely new challenges on a daily basis and deserve the respect that so many of you always show. This partnership is crucial in ensuring our children have the very best life chances. Thank you for your continued support.

Golden Book

To enhance engagement, we will be pre-recording a special Golden Book Assembly each week to celebrate the work that the children are doing at home, so do keep sending work into school. The assembly will be available to view on Friday afternoon, and certificates will be sent home on Wednesdays, when you come to collect reading resources.

Seesaw

As you know, we are always striving to improve practice, and one thing that we were planning to do early in the Spring Term was to gradually roll out a communication tool called 'Seesaw'. We are delighted to tell you that we have actually managed to speed up the roll out of Seesaw, and all being well, we should be ready to start using this platform on Monday 18th (technology and staffing permitting!). A letter has been sent out to parents today, along with individual log in details. Seesaw will enable teachers to post daily videos and enable children to share work with their teacher quickly. We are very mindful of the potential impact of this lockdown on everybody and we hope that providing this daily link, and a friendly, familiar face, will help to maintain motivation and encourage your children to stay engaged with their learning. Please be patient as we navigate our way through this digital way of working and do not hesitate to get in touch if you need any help.





School Admissions Final Reminder

Trafford's on-line application system is open and Trafford residents can apply online [here](#). An information booklet, entitled 'Starting Primary School 2021' is available to view on the Trafford Council website and on our own school website under 'Our School', and 'Admissions'. The closing date for admissions is this Friday, 15th January 2021.

Remote Learning

The school has now returned to Remote Learning, with work being set via the school website. This worked very well during the last lockdown and we are confident that it will do so again. We appreciate that learning at home brings so many challenges; from juggling electronic devices, to managing other siblings in the house and even working from home yourself. We are reviewing and refining our processes every day, so please do let us know if we can help in any way. Some useful points to note:

- We know how busy you all are trying to work and home school, and that it is not easy at all. All activities that we have posted and will post in the future should not add to any stress or tension in your lives. If you can only focus on one thing then a short amount of phonics practice or reading a few pages of a book each day would be amazing. That is why we are sending weekly bespoke phonic/ reading plans to you via email, with video teaching links to Read, Write, Inc.

lessons. These plans relate to exactly what your child would be doing if they were in school.

- Reading and phonics is such an important part of early years development, and so, we have decided that both reading and phonic books can be returned and changed in a Covid secure way every Wednesday.
- The remote learning is set on the school website. From this week, we aim to have plans and resources available by Saturday afternoon.
- If you would like paper copies of the resources then please let us know.
- Teaching staff are managing in school learning and remote learning so they will respond to emails, or communication via Seesaw but it may not be immediate.
- We need to be in regular communication with you so please make sure you keep in contact and answer your phone if we call.
- To begin with there will be weekly live Zoom chats for the children not in school: chats, Show and Tell, quizzes, story time and so on.
- A number of mobile network providers have announced they will upgrade data packages free of charge so it is worth contacting your mobile provider for information on this too.
- This week the BBC are televising lessons for primary age children so feel free to access these if they work for you and your child.

It has been so lovely to receive such positive comments from parents about what we have put in place so far, so thank you for your continued support.



Wellbeing Phone Calls

Teaching Assistants will be undertaking regular wellbeing phone calls. Last week, it was lovely to make contact with families, to catch up with children and parents and to remind everyone that we are still one school family that cares for each other. We really do enjoy chatting with the children and hearing about what they have been up to! Please do answer your phone if you see an unknown number calling. Unfortunately, due to logistical reasons, we cannot tell you when these calls will be, but do not worry if we can't get in touch first time as we will keep on trying.

Lockdown Regulations

Due to the fact that the rate of Covid is continuing to rise in Trafford, it is more important than ever that you continue to adhere to the government guidelines:

- You must stay at home, except for the following reasons - to shop for basic necessities, for you or a vulnerable person; to go to work, or provide voluntary or charitable services, if you cannot reasonably do so from home; to exercise with

your household (or support bubble) or one other person, this should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.

- To meet your support bubble or childcare bubble where necessary, but only if you are legally permitted to form one.
- To seek medical assistance or avoid injury, illness or risk of harm (including domestic abuse).
- To attend education or childcare - for those eligible.

If your child is currently attending school in person, please ensure that you continue to follow the established school procedures, so as to continue to help prevent the spread of Covid-19. Specifically:

- Adults should wear a face mask when on the school premises, whilst dropping off/collecting children.
- Please continue to maintain a minimum of 2 metres between members of different households.
- Only **ONE** adult per family must drop off and collect. This is so that we reduce the number of people on the school site.
- If you are working part-time and your child is accessing Critical Worker provision they should be at home with you on your days off.
- If you or a member of your household have Covid symptoms, you **must all** isolate, whilst they get tested, and let us know at the earliest possible point of the result (even during the weekend), so that we can minimise the impact on anyone else in school.

Mr Hodgson's Weekly Video Messages

On Monday we saw the return of Mr Hodgson's weekly video challenges! Yes, the Learning Powers have made a comeback! Videos can now be viewed directly on the school You Tube channel, which can be accessed [here](#). Every week we will be setting the children an extra challenge to do. This week, Tough Tortoise asked the children to draw, write or send in a video message of their New Year Resolution. We have had a lovely response so far! Keep those challenges pouring in!



National Curriculum Statutory Assessments

The Prime Minister announced that the government recognises that due to further disruption, Key Stage 1 (KS1) National Curriculum assessments will not continue as intended.

The following assessments for 2021 have been cancelled:

- End of Year 2 KS1 SATs
- Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

These arrangements will apply for 2021 only, and the government are planning for a full programme of assessments to take place in the 2021/22 academic year. This will include the introduction of the statutory reception baseline as previously announced.

Critical Worker Provision

The government updated its guidance last Friday to make it clear that children of critical workers should **stay at home if they can**. Critical worker places in school should only be used if the child not being in school would prevent the critical worker from attending their critical role. Where there is a parent or carer at home, the best place for your child is at home. If this updated guidance means you no longer need the place allocated to you, please email the school admin team to let us know that your child will not be attending.

And finally...

As we venture further into this 'whole new world' of Remote Learning please remember that this is not something the staff team are used to doing. Like many of you, we are adjusting to help give your children the best chance in terms of wellbeing and learning. So please do bear with us.

Thank you for your incredible support and positivity. It really is helping us to ride this rollercoaster with a smile! Please continue to send your positive messages of support, as these are always shared with staff and really help the team to feel valued and appreciated.



We would like to thank our wonderful children who have been completing their remote learning - and to you, for doing such a brilliant job in balancing family life, home learning, and in many cases, working from home. I take my hat off to you all!

Please be kind to yourselves - these past 10 days have been a huge challenge for us all, and you are all doing your best. If you are struggling to manage all of the home learning set, I would recommend prioritising the core (Phonics/Reading and Maths). If home learning is causing friction then please just pack it up for the day and start again tomorrow. Effective learning will not take place if a child or parent is anxious. You all did a brilliant job last time and I know you will continue to do so again.

Stay Safe.

Mr Hodgson and the Templemoor Team



Spring Term 2021

Opens	Monday 4th January 2021
Closes	Friday 12th February 2021
Opens	Monday 22nd February 2021
Closes	Thursday 1st April 2021

Summer Term 2021

Opens	Monday 19th April 2021
Bank Holiday Monday (School is closed)	Monday 3rd May 2021
Closes	Friday 28th May 2021
Opens	Monday 14th June 2021
Closes	Friday 23rd July 2021