

Parent Newsletter
Friday 12th March 2021



Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

What a wonderful (and tiring) week we have had back in school! The children have got back into the swing of school life very quickly and we have been really proud of all of them.

Drop-offs and Collections

Thank you everyone for helping keep our community safe and not arriving early to bring your child to school. Thank you also for keeping your children with you and socially distancing from other parents.

We have made a final adjustment to the Rocket Class drop-off at the main entrance as the pavement is becoming quite congested in the morning, preventing other parents from walking safely along the pavement.

Please avoid coming to the school office if at all possible. Messages need to be emailed or telephoned into the office. If you have anything to drop off at the office, please come after 9.15am or at the end of the school day to avoid crossing through our bubbles entering the main gate.

In addition, please avoid congregating outside the shops. Once you have dropped your child off, you should go straight home. Whilst we all miss our friends and want to catch up with people, this should not be done in person as it is against current guidance.

Restrictions

Keep yourself updated with what you are and are not allowed to do by following this link to the Government website:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home#march-whats-changed>

Staff News

I am delighted to inform you that Mrs Sakalas, the River Class teacher, is pregnant and expecting a new addition to her family in September.

School Developments

Our staff are spending the last two weeks of term focusing on assessing all of the children and identifying which learning they have managed to keep up with and which areas there may be some gaps in. This assessment information will then inform the teachers' plans for the Summer Term so that we can use the last fifteen weeks of term to the best effect and ensure our children move into the next year group with the right skills and knowledge for their next year of learning. The Senior Leadership Team met this week to review progress towards our school priorities, informing a robust plan for the Summer Term to ensure that we continue to strive forward.

Home Learning Videos available now on Google Classroom

Don't forget we've changed our home learning and you can now access a video from your class teacher on the Google Classroom with instructions of a task you can do at home! Any resources you need will be given out at school. Don't forget you and your child should also be reading as much as possible, accessing Times Tables Rockstars or Numbots, Reading Eggs is still available and Spellzone for KS2 (see below).

Self-Isolation Learning

For families who are self-isolation (or need to in the future) there are learning tasks available on the Google Classroom including: ten writing tasks, ten reading tasks and ten curriculum tasks. Within 48hours of knowing of your isolation, the class teacher will also post mathematics activities linked directly to the classroom learning. Please do not complete these activities unless you are isolating.

Safeguarding

This week, a written, anonymous safeguarding concern was reported to us. However, without full information from the parent who sent the concern in, there is little we can do. Please remember that if you are concerned about the safety or wellbeing of a child, you are responsible for reporting this to children's services yourself by telephoning: **0300 123 4043**. Children's safety is paramount and we are responsible as individual citizens to report our concerns.

Spellzone

By Alex Green, Assistant Head and Writing Leader

<https://www.spellzone.com/index.cfm>

We have now subscribed to Spellzone for all our pupils in Years 3-6. Your child will be able to login using their email address and regular password. When your child first logs on, they will complete a short baseline Spellzone test which then sets an individual pathway of activities for your child. Years 4, 5 and 6 have already completed this and Year 3 will do this next week. Then they can then work through the pathway and are rewarded as they complete the activities and games for each section. Additionally, your teacher may set complementary activities to match their learning in school. Spellzone is not replacing the teaching of spelling in school; rather it is extra support that they will only access at home and is bespoke to your individual child's needs. It can also be translated into 92 languages which will support our learners whose first language isn't necessarily English. Please look out for updates from your teacher!

Red Nose Day

On Friday 19th March, it is Red Nose Day! **Please wear as much red as possible** and drop your donations in the buckets held by the staff on the gates in the morning only (we will send you a reminder on Thursday evening and early Friday morning)!

Have a delightful weekend, everyone! Fingers tightly crossed for the weather to improve.

Mrs Lyon and the Leavesden Team