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Executive Head Teacher: Mrs Laura Green

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace
1 Peter 4:10*

Work together, learn together, grow together...

Friday 17th April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: School Closure Updates and News

I hope you had the chance to relax and enjoy the beautiful Easter weekend. It was lovely to see the photographs of children out in their gardens hunting for chocolate eggs.

Child Care Arrangements From Week Beginning 20th April

If you are a critical worker, and you do not have suitable alternative care for your child, we are providing childcare at our Morley Primary School site during the school closure. If the number of places required for Tacolneston pupils increases, we will consider opening that site for our children of critical workers, but at present, it makes sense to limit our staffing, maintenance and cleaning needs to one site. To make a booking for places, please make contact with me on head@morley.norfolk.sch.uk or head@tacolneston.norfolk.sch.uk

Arrangements for our childcare provision are as follows:

- Tacolneston pupils to be brought to Morley Primary School (address at the top of this letter)
- School will be open from 8:40am to 3:15pm
- The morning session will run from 8:40 to 12:15
- The afternoon session will run from 1:15 to 3:15
- Lunch will be provided by our catering company, Norse, as usual from 12:15 to 1:15
- There will not be access to Universal Infant Free School meals and families who are eligible for free school meals will be in receipt of vouchers to cover the school closure period so they will need to provide a packed lunch for their child or buy a lunch, on the day, from Norse.
- Your child can wear comfortable home clothes. They should have a complete change of clothes each day and you will need to ensure that they shower and wash their hair on return from our setting.
- They should bring their wellies, PE Kit and water bottles (all clearly labelled)
- They can bring a healthy mid-morning snack

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns, or if your circumstances change at any time.

Free School Meals:

The government agreed to provide free school meals for eligible children over the Easter holidays. However, they didn't inform schools of this until the Easter holiday period had begun. We responded immediately by placing orders for the vouchers but the company running the system, Edenred, lacked the capacity to handle the number of orders they received. Yesterday, it appeared that the vouchers had been fulfilled but we are informed that the vouchers may come into people's junk mail folders so it is worth checking there if you haven't received anything so far. Please let us know if you experience any problems in accessing your vouchers.

Transitions

We understand that children and parents who are due to transition to Year R or high school in September will be particularly anxious about the arrangements for this big change in their lives. We will be contacting our new families in the coming week to explain arrangements to them and I am in contact with the high schools. We will be doing our best to ensure that your children and you receive all of the information that you need prior to them starting in their new setting. Depending upon when the schools come out of lockdown, we will be arranging transition meetings and activities for your children and will let you have details in due course. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Class Email:

We have provided the class email addresses so that you can ask your child's class teacher questions about your child's home learning. Please direct any other questions to our office email, as given at the top of this letter. Refer to our website for a full list of email contact addresses.

Google Classroom:

We sent login details for Google Classroom to all of our families. We have a small handful of children from each class regularly sharing photos and sending messages but it would be lovely to see more. This isn't just about showing how much maths and English they are doing. We want to see them having fun! The children enjoy this safe way to send messages to each other and their teachers and TAs.

Home Learning:**EPSS:**

The Educational Psychology & Specialist Support team have produced a list of useful resources for home learning and parent/carer awareness. We have attached the document to this letter.

Active Norfolk:

New ideas for keeping active at home are updated every Friday on the Active Norfolk website. The link below will take you directly to the weekly timetable of activities.

<https://www.activenorfolk.org/active-at-home-kids>

Celebration Friday:

Despite the fact that the last two weeks would have been the Easter holiday break, our children seem to have been busier than ever:

- Ezra made a chocolate cake and wrote about it using capital letters and full stops
- Eloisa did a science experiment to make 'gloop' and practised her common exception words while exploring textures
- Baxter has been playing some games that Mrs Easter recommended

- Thomas helped to upcycle some wooden boxes into planters to grow vegetables. He's planted some tomatoes and carrots in an egg container to get things going.
- Henry made a lego rollercoaster ride and learnt about fractions
- Clara shared the story of Worrysaurus with her nanny and grandad. She made elephants from milk bottles, a rainbow brick pattern on the wall outside her house and a life-size picture of herself.
- Ella-Rose made a Gruffalo story board, went on a bike ride, cleaned out her playhouse and planted lots of seeds in the vegetable patch
- Polly made a cereal box story scene about the Stick Man
- Martha made rainbow cakes and ended up with cake dye all over her face!
- Josh made a dragon bug and wrote a story called 'The Temple of Forgotten Rubies'
- Bethan made dinner for her family – curry, parathas, naan and rice!
- Abi made a rainbow bug
- George made pictures to remind people to stay safe and to think about his auntie because she's working really hard taking fruit and vegetables to lots of people who can't get out
- Mia made a stick house for her cat

And finally:

Our school prayer:

Heavenly Father,

Remind us to use our gifts, to serve one another, as good stewards of your varied grace.

Amen

Kind Regards



Laura Green
Executive Head Teacher