

# SCHOOL NEWS

Holiday Club | Food Bank Vouchers | St Ann's 50th

## COVID-19: Updated Guidance

As you will be well aware, last week some of the lockdown restrictions were lifted nationally. However, as a school, very little has changed and the guidance and risk assessments we have been using still remain in place. One exception to this is that we are now able to take children on educational visits - both residential and for the day.

Therefore, we need to ask you to continue to wear face coverings on the school premises, keep your distance and follow the one way system. Please ensure you use the correct entrance - only Nursery and Reception should be entering via the Nursery gate. Years 1 to 4 should enter via the park-side gate and Years 5 and 6 through the front door. In the coming weeks, we will be reviewing the staggered start and finish times, so please watch this space for further information.

## Communications

Once again, I need to stress to parents, not to use ClassDojo messaging to report a child's absence. It is vital this information goes straight to the school office as this is where the registers are checked and managed. Now the teachers are in the classrooms full time, they will no longer be doing a daily check on messages and important information can be missed. If we do not know where a child is on any given morning, we have to make a welfare phone call home as part of our safeguarding procedures. Please remember you can leave a message on the absence voicemail at any time, clearly stating your child's name, class and reason for absence.

## A Real Life Poet in School

4L had a real treat today as they were visited by local poet, Matt Goodfellow. They spent the morning listening to his humorous poetry, taking part in a workshop and having a go themselves. Being inspired by writers and visitors in this way is a really important part of our curriculum at Etchells. The children had books signed by Matt which I'm sure they will treasure for a long time to come.





## St Ann's 50th Birthday

A reminder that we are still collecting 50 pence pieces or £1 coins for the 'Cube of 50' fundraising initiative as part of St Ann's Hospice 50th Birthday. The cubes will be in school until next Friday, so if you would still like to contribute, please send your coins in next week. There is a cube in each class.



## Singing Jamboree

Years 3 and 4 had great fun last week, taking part in a singing jamboree with music specialist, Jill Henderson-Wild. Whilst singing can only take place under very strict restrictions inside school, we took advantage of our wonderful outdoor learning area, and were able to sing in the fresh air in our log circle. We feel strongly that whilst it is vitally important to provide catch up learning and drive forward teaching in English and Maths, it is also essential that our pupils are experiencing a broad and balanced curriculum, full of fun and creativity.



## Outwood Holiday Club



The holiday club, which has been previously held at Outwood Primary School, will be running once again from the 1st to the 4th June. Please see the flyer attached to this email for

further information. Stephen Barnes, who runs the club, has offered two pupils from Etchells a free day for the club. Please email me directly if you would like a free day and I will award them on a first come, first served basis.

## Wrap Around Care

I would like to reassure parents that we are in the process of organising Breakfast and After School Club provision for September. I hope to give you more information about this soon and an email address will be provided for you in the coming weeks.

## Holidays - Amber Destinations

The Local Authority have made it clear this week that no families should be taking holidays in 'Amber' countries. There is a legal duty to quarantine on return from these destinations and there is also a legal duty for children to be in school. They will be issuing further information about this next week, but I wanted to give advance notice of the expectation that all pupils are to be in school directly after the half term holiday.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows

and the Etchells staff

## Stockport Food Bank

The Stockport Food Bank have asked me to remind any families who may benefit from using the food bank over the 2 week holiday period, to get in touch with school. In the strictest confidence, we will be able to issue you with a voucher which you can then use at the food banks. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if this would be beneficial for your family.

