# SCHOOL NEWS

#### Free School Meals | Parents' Evening | Illness

### **Immersion Days**

It's been a busy week for immersion days, with Year 4 and Reception getting stuck into their learning through some rather different activities.

Year 4 have been on a virtual trip to Jamaica, tasting food, listening to and singing Bob Marley, performing Patois poetry and producing watercolour silhouette art. They even packed a suitcase with things they would need. Lovely to see them dressed in the colours of the Jamaican flag!

Meanwhile in Reception, the children were busy taking part in a 'People who help us' day. This is part of the 'Glorious Growth' topic in which they are learning about keeping healthy and those who help us. They have also been learning about one of our Core Values: 'Aspiration', thinking about what they might like to be when they grow up.









#### Parents' Evenings

We will be holding the Spring Term Parents' Evenings during the week beginning 28th February. In accordance with Local Authority guidance, they will once again be held over Zoom in order to keep everyone as safe as possible. The week before, you will receive your child's mid-term report; this will tell you if your child is on track to meet or exceed the Age Related Expectations (AREs) or if we feel they are working below this level. There will also be targets to work on for both English and Maths. Please read the report before your meeting in order for it to be discussed with the teacher. We will send out booking details for the appointments before the half term holiday.

If your child is on our Special Educational Needs register, you will be invited to a meeting with the class teacher and Mrs Kind to discuss the support plan or EHCP. These will be held just before the Parents Evening week and you will be contacted with an appointment. Please do not make a further appointment for the 28th February week.

#### Free School Meals?

Please read below and look at the attached document for further information and links.

## Does your child receive benefits-related Free School Meals?

If your child receives benefits-related Free School Meals, then you're eligible for a holiday voucher to help with the cost of food, utilities and other essentials over February half term and Easter.

One voucher will be issued to cover both February half term and Easter.

Each eligible child will receive a £60 voucher by email or post. **VOUCHERS** 

ARE BACK!

Email vouchers can be redeemed at any Post Office location. Be sure to check your email for your voucher. Don't forget to check your spam folder too!



If you do not have an email address registered with the council, you'll receive an Aldi voucher in the post.



Want more information? Visit Stockport Council's webpage at: www.stockport.gov.uk/free-school-meals/holiday-support-voucher





## **Covid Update**

Although we had started to see a sudden drop in positive cases of Covid in Stockport, this week has shown that cases are still high and are most prevalent in the primary school age group. There have been a large number of schools in Stockport, including our immediate area, who have had outbreaks in at least one class. As I indicated in my letter earlier this week, we are asking everyone to be vigilant in looking for symptoms and testing when at all possible. If tests are negative, then your child may attend school. However, they may of course be poorly with something completely different - and then they must stay at home until recovered. Please remember that if your child has sickness or diarrhea, they must remain away from school for 48 hours after their last occurrence; this is due to the highly infectious nature of the illnesses.

#### **School Dinners**

As you are aware, we have had some turn over of staff in the kitchen in recent months. The cook and assistants are employed by Totally Local Company and they are busy finding replacements. In the meantime, they have a team in to cook and provide the meals. We have had a few teething problems and some choices that the children have made, have not always been available. Please bear with us whilst these issues are ironed out and the ordering process is running effectively again. The children won't go without a meal - it just might not be their first choice. I'm sure the normal service will be resumed very soon.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows and the Etchells staff