



Courageous Optimism

Heartfelt Compassion

Boundless Creativity

Dear Parents,

We hope you are all well. We continue to have children in school every day at Roxwell Primary and they are all well and happy. We are blessed to have such lovely weather and are completing lots of outdoor learning.

We sent a letter last Friday 15.5.20, to explain about the return to school. We also sent a letter on Monday 18.5.20 from Mr Dutnall to tell you the dates that LIFE had agreed to send the children back to school.

We will welcome back Year 6 children on 1st June and EYFS and Year 1 children on the 15th June. LIFE will support us in monitoring the scientific findings about Covid-19 as the children return to school. As Mr Dutnall says in his letter, 'Pupils in school **will not** follow their normal programme of lessons.' Due to shortages in staffing because of shielding/illness/NHS advice, the children will not necessarily be taught by their class teachers, as is stated in the letter dated 15.5.20. Please see the staff arrangement on the right hand side **until 29th June**.

The Government legislation changes daily and the latest updates on the (very long) Risk Assessment says that children must not wear ties. The latest rule about food is that there will be no hot cooked food. You may bring in your own lunch box or order a 'School Prepared Lunch Box' when you arrive at school. The 'School Prepared Lunch Box' will consist of a ham, cheese or tuna sandwich, a snack and a piece of fruit. Your child may order a sandwich of their choice on the day. Please pay for the packed lunch, in the normal way, as if it were a school dinner. Please let me know of any dietary requirements in advance. The new Government legislation introduced this week also stated that the children would have to administer their own first aid. If a child is in distress we will apply full PPE equipment to support that child or phone you at home.

We ask that you support your child to fully understand the Government guidelines about social distancing that have been put in place since the lockdown. I understand that these are difficult for children to comprehend, but it will help them to realise that the school will look a little different when they return to class.

In school the children must be 2m apart and it would be good if they had some understanding of the reason for this action. The tables have been organised so that the children are 2m apart, while they are working, and depending on numbers the children will have staggered lunchtimes and playtimes. Please share this information with your children so that they have some weeks to get used to the idea. Of course the class teachers will help children to understand these changes when they return to school.

Term Dates

Margaretting School: 1st June to 29th June

**EYFS Mrs Gozel/Mrs Shorey
Y1 Mrs Kirk
Y6 Miss Bryan/Mrs Burton**
(If there is a need we will run a Key Worker group)

Roxwell School:
(1st June Inset Day. The school is NOT open for children, except Key worker children and EYFS children)

2nd June to 29th June
**EYFS Miss Purcell
Y1 Mr Clark
Y6 Miss Cotton**
(Key worker children will be with LSA's.)

21st July last day of Summer term
22 July Non Pupil Day
2nd Sept Training Day for staff
2020/2021 Dates

3rd September First day of Aut 1
23rd Oct last day of Aut 1
2nd Nov first day of Aut 2
18th Dec last day of Aut 2
6th Jan first day of Spring 1
12th Feb last day of Spring 1
22nd Feb first day of Spring 2
26th March last day of Spring 2
12th April first day of Summer 1
3rd May Bank Holiday School closed
28th May last day of summer 1
7th June first day of summer 2
18th June Training Day school closed



The class teachers have phoned all of you this week. If we have not got an answer, we have left a message for you to phone the school. Please phone back to let us know that your family is safe and well.

We hope the children are able to continue with some Home Learning using their Home Learning packs from 18th May. We do not expect the children to work over half term and so the pack should also include work for the week beginning 1st June. Please do not feel under pressure to work every day, just try your best to support your child in these difficult circumstances. We will work hard to support the children with their learning when everything returns to normal.

All educational visits are cancelled for the rest of this academic year for both our schools. We await further information from the Government about PGL and the details about refunds. Please wait for further information in the next few weeks.

The Government states that it is a parents choice to send their children back to school. We respect your wishes and your decisions.

Please understand that our job is to keep children and staff safe. We are trying to put all the legislation in place. Please be patient, if I continue to send letters and messages, this is because the legislation is changing daily. Some of our staff have been ill and it is our responsibility to keep us all safe. The staff are all well now and are convalescing.

The free school meals vouchers, for children who receive free school meals, (not EYFS, Y1 and Y2) HAVE NOW BEEN EMAILOED TO YOU. Please accept my apologies for the delay but this is a government initiative and nothing to do with our school. There have been huge delays nationally for all schools, not just our school. But I am pleased that you have received the vouchers now.

These are very strange times and I am pleased to say that our schools communities are safe and well, according to all the phone conversations that we have had with you this week.

However, I know being under lockdown is really stressful and we all miss our family and friends. We would prefer you to phone us than worry about anything to do with your child. We will be on the mobile phone over half term for all emergencies, so if you are having a tough day, just ring. Sometimes talking to someone else helps a lot. If you do not want to speak to us, there are lots of helpline numbers to support you too. The Essex Welfare Service is helpful on 03003039988.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Governors for their support throughout this challenging time and to all the staff at LIFE who work tirelessly to support our schools.

We hope you all enjoy half term and that the sun continues to shine.

Best wishes, Maire O'Regan, Melissa Bryan and Sarah Cotton.