



Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to edition number 6 of our lockdown newsletter.



Zoom Meets

This week the class zoom meet ups have started and thank you for all your positive feedback on this. **These will be taking place each week at the same time.**

You will get a new invite over the weekend which you can then use for the next 3 weeks.

Class Calls

Class teachers are now making the calls to their classes each week, please note that these may sometimes show as no caller id.



Home Learning Tips

We have reattached last week's home learning tips for your information. However this now includes the new 0-5 Children's Centre Weekly Activity too (this week it is how to make a talking stick!). We are also extending the school food project for another week (keep the photos coming in ... winners announced next week!)



Free School Meals

We have checked the system and all the vouchers for last week are showing as delivered. The voucher systems had another national problem on Monday and Tuesday but vouchers for this week and next should now start being delivered and you should be able to redeem them.



We are getting notified by the Local Authority every week about new families who are eligible. As soon as we get this information we upload it onto the voucher system to try and get them to you as soon as possible. Information on how to apply is on the next page.

And finally ... a little message



The staff have compiled a video message to all the children.
To view it visit our website www.ellenwilkinson.newham.sch.uk
The link is on the front page with this newsletter.



Take care and stay safe. **Sue Ferguson**



Ramadan Guidance During COVID-19

We are aware that many of our families are now observing the holy month of Ramadan. This is obviously more challenging this year due to the current government expectations on social distancing. To help with this the Muslim Council of Britain has produced a guide on how to observe Ramadan at home and stay safe during COVID-19 restrictions.

The guide “**Ramadan at Home, Stay Home, Save Lives**” is attached to this newsletter.



Online learning platform to boost workplace skills

We know parents have concentrated on helping their children with their learning, but maybe this an opportunity for you too?

Free courses are available through the new online platform, **the Skills Toolkit**. This platform signposts to free, high-quality digital and numeracy courses to help people build up their skills, progress in work and boost their job prospects and confidence whilst at home.

Courses on offer cover a range of levels, from everyday maths and the use of email and social media at work to more advanced training. All courses are available online and are flexible so that people can work through them at their own pace.

The Skills Toolkit can be accessed here:

<https://theskillstoolkit.campaign.gov.uk/>

How to apply for Free School Meals

If your family's circumstances have changed we would strongly suggest you apply if you think you may be eligible.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

To apply please follow the link:

<https://www.newham.gov.uk/Pages/Services/Free-school-meals.aspx>



Still struggling to access you FSM vouchers? Please contact us between 9 am and 3 pm during the week and we will try to help.

GOOD THINKING

Good Thinking is London's digital mental wellbeing service, delivered in partnership with London's NHS, the Mayor of London, Public Health England London Councils and Thrive LDN.

It is **free** for Londoners to access and provides support to those who feel anxious, sleep deprived, stressed or sad. The platform has recently been updated with specific resources to support the mental health and wellbeing of Londoners in response to coronavirus which can be found at:

https://www.good-thinking.uk/coronavirus/?dm_i=1TXQ,6UK0P,R7MUBZ,RGUN4,1



SUPPORT FOR UNDER 5'S FROM BECKTON AND ROYAL DOCKS CHILDREN'S CENTRE



Do you have children under 5 in your home?

Need ideas on how to keep them entertained?

Worried about accessing support and services?

Need to reach out and talk to someone else?

Family Support:

The family support team is there to give advices if needed

Times: available Monday to Friday

078 703 6597/ 079 392 196 124

Call us!

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Domestic Violence Awareness

Due to the present situation (COVID-19) research has shown that domestic violence has increased, one of the main factors are, families are in the same environment . If you are experiencing Domestic Violence, please do not hesitate to contact Newham Hestia on **0808 196 1482** or send an email

ReferralsNewhamDSY@hestia.org

Or Right of women advice line who provide a range of services

<https://rightsofwomen.org.uk/get-advice/adviceline>