



**Dear Parents & Carers,**

Welcome to edition number 7 of our lockdown newsletter. Despite widespread media speculation, schools have not yet had any information about return dates. This may change when the government issues their updated guidance on Sunday (or it may not!)

**What is important is that your child is doing some work every school day for our eventual return.**



- Please make sure that your child completes their English & maths books and they read every day.
- We strongly recommend them using mathletics & bug club where possible.
- We are currently preparing work for future weeks that will utilize online provision from BBC Bitesize and Oak Academy which you can access at any time.
- There will also be hard copy science workbook packs for years 1 to 6
- The Home Learning Tips gives various ideas each week about how you can organize learning at home.
- It also has the school project for the fortnight. Send in photos of your child's efforts and they may be receiving a certificate and prize from me!

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

**Phone Calls**



Teaching staff are currently making care calls to every child each week. This is to discuss any support you may need with your child's learning and to keep in contact with our families. We can also signpost you to other services if needed. However we are aware that weekly calls may not always be convenient (particularly for our larger families) so if you would like these fortnightly please tell your child's teacher when they call but please make sure children attend the Zoom meet **EVERY** week!





## Playground Improvements

Even though the school is shut, work continues on improving our playground. The pond and wildlife area have been cleared and revamped by staff and children who have been onsite and the new playground markings (designed and agreed by the Junior Governing Body) have been installed. Until you can see them in person we have included some photos below!



## 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>

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Winners for our first school competition are listed below, along with some photos of their outcomes! Certificates and a prize will be sent through to you. The new project is on the Home Learning Tips. – you have two weeks!

Angel in Year 5, Antonina in Year 4, and Denisa in Year 6.



Still struggling to access you FSM vouchers? A users guide has been sent with this week's newsletter to hopefully help you redeem your vouchers more easily.

PLEASE MAKE SURE WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT PHONE NUMBER & EMAIL ADDRESS SO WE CAN KEEP YOU UPDATED.

## 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/>

## Well-Being



This is a worrying and stressful time for everyone, and each family has unique challenges. Make sure family well-being comes first. To help get ideas on how to do this visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/>

### Need to reach out?

Sometimes you may just need to reach out. If you do, at any point, feel you are struggling, can't cope and need some support, there are organisations and charities that can help:

**Mind**: <https://www.mind.org.uk> – mental health charity

**The Samaritans**: [samaritans.org](https://www.samaritans.org) – 24hr support call free on 116 123

**CALM**: Campaign Against Living Miserably, for people in the UK who are down or have hit a wall for any reason. Call 0800 58 58 58 (daily, 5pm to midnight)



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



### Family Support:

The family support team is there to give advice if needed

**Times: available Monday to Friday**

**078 703 6597/ 079 392 196 124**

### 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](mailto:ReferralsNewhamDSY@hestia.org)

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

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

Do you have children under 5 in your home?

Need to reach out and talk to someone else?