

Rudston Primary School

Newsletter: January 2021

Dear parents and carers

I appreciate that this is a sensitive and worrying time for all families, however please be assured that school staff are available to support you and your children as we move forward during these most challenging times.

As you are aware we are currently only open to critical worker and vulnerable children. We are following all advice from Liverpool City Council, DfE and Public Health England to reduce the number of children in school to lower the number of households mixing and reduce transmission of the virus.

The single most important action we can all take is to stay at home to protect the NHS and save lives. Only leave the house when absolutely necessary. Therefore, in line with updated government guidance issued on Friday, even if you are a critical worker, if your child(ren) can remain at home rather than attend school, on some or all days, then they should. *Please only use the offer of provision at school when it is crucial for you to undertake your critical role.*

Currently due to our high numbers in school all our teachers are working full time to provide both teaching in school and via our Google Classroom platform. I can assure you that the work in school is the same as that set on Google Classroom as we strive to provide equality in provision to all our children. As a critical worker this means that your child can complete a blended learning approach of work both in school and at home, attending schools only on the days required.

I do appreciate that this is a very difficult time for us all and by working together we will get through this, just like we did before summer.

I would like to finish by thanking all the parents who have emailed with praise for the school and staff; these are gratefully received and help the teachers to continue to work hard for all our children.

Kindest Regards

Wendy Walters

Attendance

Following guidance, any child who is not attending school due to current lockdown restrictions will be automatically given an authorised absence mark. However as the expectation is that all children at home will fully engage with the remote learning we ask that if your child is ill to please contact the office through the usual means. This will ensure that we are not following up work that has not been completed on Google Classroom. If your child is ill we do not expect them to be working at home.

Bubble closure

Can I take this opportunity to remind you all that the decision to close a bubble is not taken lightly. This will only be done if a child or staff member within that bubble has tested positive with COVID-19. We currently have 5 bubbles closed and community rates are increasing rapidly. The current rate for the Childwall area is currently 1378.3 per 100,000 with a Liverpool rate of 1042.3 per 100,000. **As a result it is vital that if you receive a direct contact letter to inform your child to self-isolate you must follow this advice. This means that the child must not leave the family home for any reason.** Other family members do not need to isolate during this time unless your child develops symptoms.

Google Classroom

Every child has access to remote learning via Google Classroom and further details can be found on our website. I have been asked if we will be providing 'live lessons' during lockdown. This is something we have seriously considered.

DfE guidance states that

"The remote education provided should be equivalent in length to the core teaching pupils would receive in school and will include both recorded or live direct teaching time, and time for pupils to complete tasks and assignments independently."

I can confirm we will not be delivering live lessons. We have taken this decision for 3 reasons:

Firstly there have been safeguarding concerns with some live teaching methods.

Secondly, and the main reason for us, is that many of our families are undertaking remote learning at different times of the day due to shift patterns and the number of children in the household sharing technology. If we delivered live lessons this would result in some children being unable to access the learning. Instead we will be delivering pre-recorded introductions and teaching via Loom on Google Classroom as well as sharing teaching videos from Oak Academy and White Rose Maths. These will enable the children to access them at any time during the day and re watch to support learning.

Thirdly, all Rudston teachers are currently in class full time as well as preparing, setting and providing feedback for remote learning.

I hope you agree with our decision and continue to support your child to engage fully with the work set.

We will be monitoring children's engagement on Google Classroom and will contact parents to offer support to children who are not completing regular work via telephone or text.

Reporting a positive case

If your child has symptoms please contact school as soon as possible, stating the symptoms and the date which the symptoms started and book a test as soon as possible via

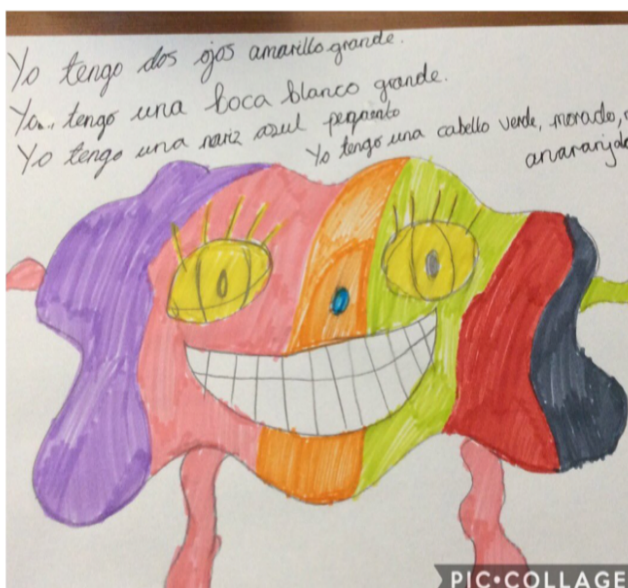
<https://liverpool.gov.uk/communities-and-safety/emergency-planning/coronavirus/how-to-get-tested/tests-for-people-with-symptoms/>

Once you have received your results it is important to notify school as soon as possible so we can take appropriate action to stop the virus spreading within the school community. If you receive results out of school hours (between 4pm and 8am or during the weekend) please email us at school@rudstonprimary.co.uk. By receiving positive results at the weekend we can inform parents before children attend school.

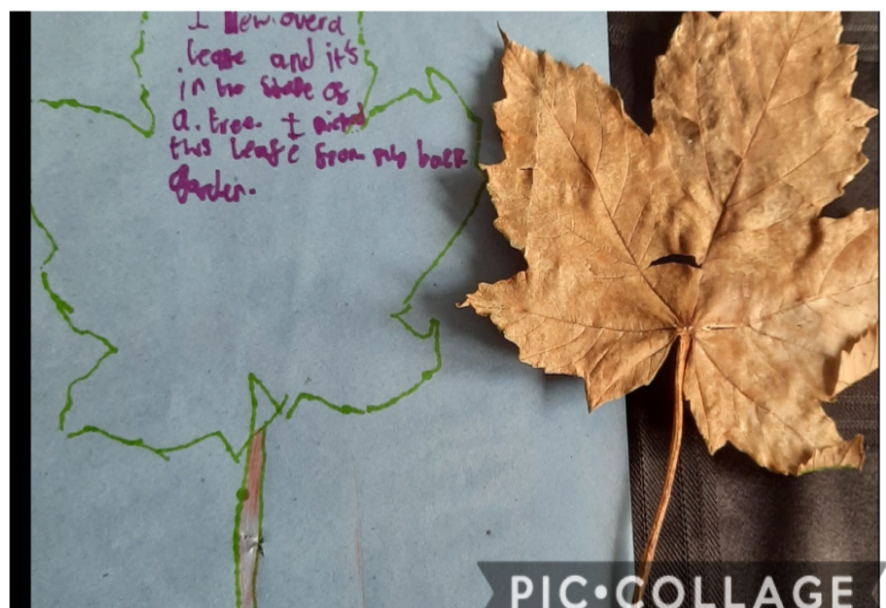
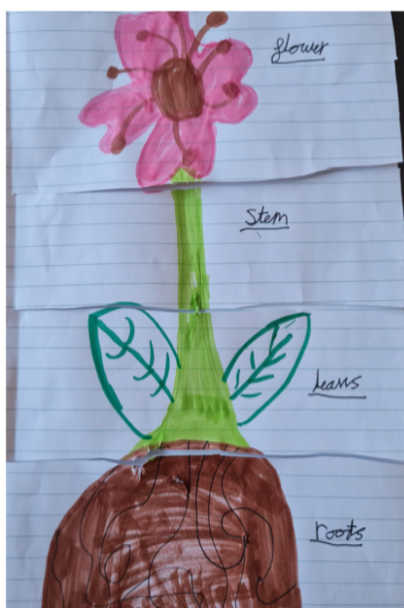
Over the **dusty** cobbles he clattered and clashed in the **silent** dark inn-yard
 And he tapped with his whip on the **clean** shutters, but all was locked and barred
 He whistled a tune to the window, and who should be waiting there
 But the landlord's **shiny** black-eyed daughter,
 Bess, the **beautiful** landlord's daughter,
 Plaiting a dark red love-knot into her long wavy dark hair.

Some of our wonderful work from home and school

Over the **stones** he clattered and clashed in the
 dark inn-yard,
 And he **patted** with his whip on the shutters,
 all was locked and barred;
 He whistled a **jingle** to the window, and who
 should be waiting there
 But the landlord's black-eyed **offspring**,
 Bess, the landlord's daughter,
 Plaiting a dark red love-knot into her long black
 hair.



Some of our wonderful work from home and school



PIC•COLLAGE