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Thursday 22nd October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Half Term Holiday Already!

Wow, hasn't the first half term flow by?! From the end of school, today, children have the half term holiday. We look forward to seeing them back in school on Monday 2nd November.

Safety First!

The approach we have taken to COVID19 has helped us, this half term, to have:

1. **No children test positive to COVID19**
2. **No staff test positive to COVID 19**

This is great! We know that the two above achievements are dependent on school and parents and carers doing the right things to reduce the risk of the spread of infection and we thank you all for the role you have played in keeping our school safe. We ask parents and carers to:

- **Continue to social distance** from each other and from staff
- Over the half term holiday, to continue to **do all that they can to prevent any possible spread of COVID 19**. At the end of this letter is the summary of what we all need to do to stay safe and to follow the TIER 2 expectations.

The approach taken at Mistley Norman is similar to that which we have taken at St Osyth. I hope that it reassuring for parents and carers at this school to know that St Osyth passed a 'spot-check' by the Health and Safety Executive with flying colours. **The inspector noted that our risk assessment and our operational plan are detailed, good and appropriate.** We have had a couple of minor suggestions from the inspector and we are implementing these. One of them, which shows how small the suggested improvements are, is for me to remind parents and carers to ensure that children wear vests etc so that they stay warm whilst classrooms are appropriately ventilated.

Not so much Stig of the Dump as Mistley of the Mud Huts!

Today, Plato continued their learning about the Stone Age by building their very own Stone Age huts.



Staying safe online during Halloween

With a digital Halloween approaching, due to Covid-19 restrictions, parents and carers are being alerted to the possibility that children may take their celebrations online this year. This could result in sharing frightening content and peer pressure to undertake harmful online challenges.

Essex Children's Safeguarding Board have made resources about online safety and child exploitation available on their [ESCB](#) website.

Supporting Children in Need

Week beginning Monday 9th November, Children in Need are having a week focusing on supporting children's health and well-being. We have planned three ways for the children to be involved with this.

1. Daily PE sessions with Mr Cavahlo - All classes will join each other and Mr Cavahlo in the style of Joe Wicks – only better, of course!
2. Each class will have a CORAM live session with an expert teacher from CORAM. CORAM are experts in personal, social and health education and our curriculum for those areas comes from CORAM.
3. Friday – Show us Pudsey dressing up day. Every child may come to school in non-school uniform if:
 - a. They donate £1 to Children in Need
 - b. They wear something with Pudsey on it. This could be something bought or home-made, for example a home-made Pudsey badge or Pudsey decorated cheap t-shirt.

We're sharing this information, now, about the Non-uniform day so that, if they want, children can use some of their half term holiday to prepare their Pudsey themed outfit.

Best Regards,



Mr M Carter-Tufnell
(Headteacher)

Local COVID alert level: high

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-covid-alert-levels-what-you-need-to-know#local-covid-alert-level-high>

This is for areas with a higher level of infections where some additional restrictions are in place.

This means on top of restrictions in alert level medium:

- you must not socialise with anybody outside of your household or support bubble in any indoor setting, whether at home or in a public place
- you must not socialise in a group of more than 6 outside, including in a garden or other spaces like beaches or parks (other than where specific exemptions apply in law)
- businesses and venues can continue to operate, in a COVID-secure manner, other than those that remain closed in law
- certain businesses are required to ensure customers only consume food and drink while seated, and must close between 10pm and 5am
- businesses and venues selling food for consumption off the premises can continue to do so after 10pm as long as this is through delivery service, click-and-collect or drive-through
- schools, universities and places of worship remain open
- weddings and funerals can go ahead with restrictions on the number of attendees
- exercise classes and [organised sport](#) can continue to take place outdoors; these will only be permitted indoors if it is possible for people to avoid mixing with people they do not live with or share a support bubble with; there are exceptions for supervised activities for under-18s, and disability sport
- you can continue to travel to venues or amenities that are open, for work or to access education, but should look to reduce the number of journeys you make where possible

You must:

- [wear a face covering in those areas where this is mandated](#)

You should continue to:

- follow social distancing rules
- work from home where you can effectively do so
- walk or cycle where possible, or plan ahead and avoid busy times and routes on public transport



Golden Award

Well done to the following children who received Golden Awards this week

Sebastian – Aristotle

Finley – Plato

Charlie – Socrates

Sport/PE Golden Award

Well done to the Thomas of Plato class who received this week's Sports Award

DOJO Champions

Congratulations to this week's Dojo Champions

Lexi – Aristotle

Phoenix – Plato

Harry – Socrates

