



Dartmoor
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST



Nurture, Inspire, Achieve

A small school, learning together in the local community

Dear parents/ carers

It feels strange writing a newsletter in the current climate but I wanted to touch base with you all in such uncharted times. I wanted to thank you all for your engagement in our remote learning this week. Class Dojo is working really well and I must say that class teachers, support staff and myself are really enjoying seeing all the amazing work flooding in. Your children have been so creative and engaged in our home learning so thank you all as I know it can be so difficult juggling home life, working from home, maintaining a farm, keeping safe and making sure the children are occupied too!

With at least a further 2 weeks of lock down, we are always seeking new ways to make this experience better for everyone. We will be sending out another parent questionnaire soon so keep a look out on School Gateway. Also, I will be forwarding support forums and online resources set up for families in this difficult time.

Keeping safe online

The internet is so wonderful and a great way to communicate, especially when stuck indoors. We are using it to keep the children's learning going while at home with Class Dojo and various websites that compliment learning. For example, if we recommend a YouTube clip, keep their focus on this, steer away from straying into similar clips as we do not know the source or authenticity of these. Here are a few tips for keeping your child safe online:

- *Talk to your child about only going on sites that have been recommended by their teacher*
- *Ensure children are in the room with you when accessing the device so that you can see what they are accessing*
- *Don't be afraid to check what they have been looking at afterwards*
- *Try, where possible to be present when video chats (Facetime, Zoom etc) are happening. You can remain in the background.*
- *Monitor conversations with friends through chat and messaging and remind children that they should never engage in conversation with anyone they do not know.*
- *Encourage the child to tell you about anything they see that may be inappropriate.*

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> has some useful resources for you to share with your children at this uncertain time.

Staying apart – Keeping together

Feeling positive and happy is crucial during this time. Staying connected is a great way to do this – we are finding Class Dojo an excellent way to stay connected with pupils and parents. Seeing your child's work or photograph of what they have been up to is heart-warming for staff so please keep them coming!

We're aware that there's a lot of anxiety around at this time. It's natural that you may be feeling worried, but it's important that we recognise it and that we share our concerns with others where we can and that we take steps to look after our own wellbeing as well as those around us. There is a lot of advice for us to tap into out there so please look after yourselves. I am attaching to this Newsletter a Primary Parent pack with lots of useful activities for you to share with your child.

Critical workers

We still have reduced provision available for children of critical workers (and those unable to look after their child at home). This is currently at Okehampton Primary school, run by Federation staff. Please email admin if you require provision. Food hampers are also going home to free school meals pupils (not universal FSM, KS1). You can check if you are eligible on the Devon County Council website by following this link: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals>

Thank you and stay safe

I wanted to finish the week by saying a huge thank you to the teachers and TAs and our administrator, Lynn, for all the exceptional hard work you are putting in remotely during this time. We will continue to answer your queries through admin email and communicate any changes as we learn, keeping you fully up to date. We are all embarking on a strange Summer term but if we stick together for the best interests of the children and families, we will get through it.

Stay safe and take care of yourselves,

Deirdre Petersen

FOR PARENTS

A SPECIAL COVID MESSAGE

When your child is ill or injured it is very difficult to decide if/when to call your child's GP, NHS 111 or go the Accident and Emergency Department (A&E). During the current situation and while the government is asking everyone to stay at home, it can be confusing to know what to do. Here is some guidance:



FOR ADVICE ON COVID-19 AND CHILDHOOD ILLNESSES/INJURIES VISIT WWW.NHS.UK

Designed by primary and secondary care clinicians from Barts Health & North-East London STP

YOU SHOULD GO TO A&E AND/OR CALL 999 IMMEDIATELY IF

APPEARANCE

- ▶ Pale/mottled/ashen/blue colour
- ▶ Collapsed/unresponsive/loss of consciousness
- ▶ No obvious pulse or heartbeat
- ▶ Severe allergic reaction

BEHAVIOUR

- ▶ Extreme irritability/pain/sleepiness (can be woken but falls asleep immediately)
- ▶ Seizure/jerking movements/fit

BREATHING

- ▶ Sucking in and out between ribs
- ▶ Flaring nostrils
- ▶ Extremely fast breathing
- ▶ Noisy breathing

OTHER

- ▶ Bleeding from an injury, that doesn't stop after 10 minutes of pressure

YOU SHOULD GO TO A&E IF

APPEARANCE

- ▶ Dizziness/feeling faint
- ▶ Rash that does not fade when you press it

BEHAVIOUR

- ▶ Severe constant tummy pain

OTHER

- ▶ Burn
- ▶ Possible broken bone

OTHER

- ▶ Swallowed foreign objects (especially magnets/batteries)
- ▶ Temperature higher than 38°C in a baby younger than three months old
- ▶ Your child has special health care needs and you have a plan that tells you to go to A&E
- ▶ Feels abnormally cold to touch
- ▶ Expressing suicidal/significant selfharm thoughts

YOU SHOULD CALL YOUR GP IF

APPEARANCE

- ▶ Mild/mod allergic reaction (known or suspected)
- ▶ New rash that fades when you press on it

BEHAVIOUR

- ▶ Mild irritability/sleepier than normal
- ▶ Severe tummy pain that comes and goes
- ▶ Vomiting and diarrhoea
- ▶ Not passed urine for more than 12 hours

BREATHING

- ▶ Wheezing/fast breathing

OTHER

- ▶ Temperature >39°C (age 3-12 months)
- ▶ Temperature over 38°C for more than 7 days
- ▶ Accidental overdose of medication or other substances
- ▶ Ear pain for more than 2 days
- ▶ Emotional distress, that can't be reassured

YOU SHOULD CHECK WITH 111 OR YOUR COMMUNITY PHARMACIST IF

APPEARANCE

- ▶ Pink eyes/red eyes

BEHAVIOUR

- ▶ Ear pain for less than 2 days
- ▶ Mild tummy pain that comes and goes

BREATHING

- ▶ Cough
- ▶ Runny nose

OTHER

- ▶ Temperature over 38°C for less than 7 days