



Cavendish Close Infant and Nursery School
Newsletter 15

Friday 1st May 2020

Wood Road
Chaddesden
Derby
DE21 4LY

662239

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you are all safe and well. It is May now and school has been closed to most children for almost 6 weeks. I am missing school life as I know it and I am missing your children!

Our main school gates and many other gates and fences around school look amazing. Mrs Roberts and our Teaching Assistants have coordinated this artwork and it makes me smile every time I arrive at school. Thank you to all the children that have emailed us a handprint. They are so wonderful and bright. During the week, our 19 TAs have become famous! We are glad that you enjoyed our 'Catch a Star' video; it was a lot of fun to make. Miss Notcutt was the clever editor, and did you see Mrs Leadbeater hiding behind the tree? Watch out for the teachers next and Mrs Unwin-Rose's editing skills! They are working on another surprise for you.

Our teachers have been busy making phone calls to all the children in their class. This has been time well spent and we have valued your feedback about home learning. I have enjoyed reading about how our families are getting on at home and I am glad that you are finding our home learning and posters useful. The teachers have been working tremendously hard on these.

I am continuing to track daily updates and announcements from the Government, the Department for Education in particular, and Public Health England. There are no plans for schools to reopen imminently. A phased return to school life is likely when the Government feels that it is safe for more children to return to school. We know that we all need to practise social distancing for the foreseeable future. This will be a challenge on paths, stairs and corridors which are no wider than 2 metres in most areas. We will, however, find a workable solution when the time comes.

Colonel Tom Moore has captured the hearts of the nation by raising over £30 million on his 100th birthday for the NHS – this is incredible. He proudly received a birthday card from the Queen and a birthday message from the Prime Minister. He is also number 1 in the music charts with my favourite song, the Liverpool Football Club anthem "You'll Never Walk Alone". What a hero!

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during this school closure. I have attached 7 top tips to support reading at home.

As always, thank you for your continued understanding and support during these unprecedented times.

[Stay Home](#)

[Protect the NHS](#)

[Save Lives](#)

Thank you again to all our parents who are key workers and are working hard to keep the country going. A special 'shout out' to our NHS parents – you are doing a fantastic job and we are all incredibly grateful. Thank you to all our parents who are keeping their children at home safely – you are playing your part too. My final thank you is to all our staff, who are working hard at school or at home to meet the needs of our families. We missed our Easter holiday, but we are proud to be playing our part too.

Please keep in touch with us. Take care of yourself and your loved ones.

Kind Regards

Mrs Diffin

Acting Headteacher



Providing childcare provision

Your children are safest at home. Children should be at home, including children of key workers if this is possible. Where there is no alternative option, schools have been asked to provide childcare for a **small** number of children.

We have experienced an increase in requests for childcare, however, we must consider to identify and prioritise COVID-19 critical workers.

Working at home with children continues to be a daily challenge for many parents/carers. However, the safety of our precious children must be prioritised. Children that can stay at home safely, should do. As parents/carers, we are doing our best, in partnership with our employers, to find a new working pattern that meets the needs of our families.

There is also a national and local expectation that schools continue to 'keep the door open' for children with Education, Health and Care Plans, children who are Looked After by the Local Authority and children who are supported by a Social Worker. Our current priority is to reintroduce some of our most vulnerable into the school environment. We have completed risk assessments for these children in partnership with parents/carers and supporting professionals.

It is only safe for us to have a small number of children in school. School continues to be closed to most children.

Social distancing is now an expectation at school; however, it is almost impossible to maintain with young children and this poses risks for children and their families as well as staff and their families. **We are only able to support a small number of families who absolutely need our help.**

If you meet the Government criteria, you can request further information about our childcare provision by emailing the Senior Leadership Team: leadership@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk



Supporting children eligible for benefits related Free School Meals

We have almost 100 children that are eligible for benefits related Free School Meals and they continue to benefit from the Government's national voucher scheme, allowing them to continue to access meals whilst they stay at home safely. Shopping vouchers are emailed directly from '**Edenred**' (the Government's chosen voucher supplier) to families. Parents/carers must continue to check their junk mail as the email could be in there. The Government are funding £15 a week for each eligible child. 'Edenred' is continuing to struggle with the national demand. Mrs Manners has set up our school orders and families will get the vouchers as soon as 'Edenred' processes the orders. This is out of our control. 'Edenred' assure us that they are working tirelessly to overcome issues with the system.

All e Codes have an activation date and cannot be used until that date. All e Codes are 16 digits long. If you experience an error redeeming your voucher, delete the browsing history on your device and try again. If you continue to encounter difficulties, you can email 'Edenred' directly:

freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com

Mrs Manners can be contacted about your eligibility and our voucher offer by email:

leadership@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk



Supporting vulnerable children

The hard work of our Safeguarding team is relentless. The best interests of children continue to come first. We have many incredible packages of support in place that meets the needs of individual families. The Safeguarding team are continuing to go 'the extra mile' for our families and their work is very much appreciated by the whole school community. It is always great to hear from families that are safe, well and happy, however, we are here to help families that are experiencing challenges. Our regular well-being phone calls enable us to support, advise and signpost to community services.

If anyone has a safeguarding concern about a child, they should continue to act on it immediately.

- Parents/Carers can ring or email the school's Safeguarding team to make an enquiry, to ask for help or to report a concern: safeguarding@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

The Safeguarding Team will always respond to you. I (Mrs Diffin) am our Designated Safeguarding Lead. I oversee all communication with parents and provide advice and support to the Safeguarding Team as appropriate. Mrs Howett, Mrs Asghar, Mrs Vincett, Mrs Leadbeater and Mrs Dearie are our highly skilled and experienced Safeguarding Champions.

- Parents/Carers can ring Derby Children's Social Care 01332 641172 (Out of hours Careline 01332 786968).
- Parents/Carers can ring the NSPCC helpline 0808 800 5000.

Whatever you're dealing with and however you're feeling – support is available

- ✓ **Support regarding Mental Health and Wellbeing Poster** *Refer to our website*
- Derby's NHS mental health helpline 0300 790 0596



Supporting home learning

Whilst staying at home due to COVID-19, parents and carers will be concerned about their children's education and the impact of missing school. No one expects parents to act as teachers, or to provide the activities and feedback that a school would. To support you, our talented teachers are working tirelessly to plan appropriate and interesting work for your child to do at home. **We are asking for all parents and carers to do their best to help children and support their learning.**

Do not worry about trying to maintain a full routine for your child like at school. Children will, however, feel more comfortable and learn better with a predictable routine to the day, even if this is difficult.

- ✓ **Our Daily Routine Guide** *Refer to our website*
- ✓ **4 Strategies to Motivate and Encourage Home Learning** *Refer to our website*

Every Monday morning, you will be sent a link for your child's home learning challenges for the week. Please encourage your child to try their best with these challenges. They have been put together by our teachers and they are well matched to your children's learning and our school approaches. Your child will benefit hugely from accessing these activities with your support. We are committed to working in partnership with you so that your child can continue learning and making progress.

- ✓ **Weekly Home Learning Challenges for each Year Group** *Refer to our website*

Your child's teacher would very much like to hear from you about how your child is getting on with their home learning. If you send a message or a photograph to the year group email address, your child's teacher will send your child some personal feedback to encourage them to continue learning.

If your child has Special Educational Needs, then you might find that the home learning that Mrs Vincett has put together is appropriate. There is something for everyone on these plans and they will support the development of speech and language skills, basic learning skills and social skills.

- ✓ **Home Learning for children with Special Educational Needs** *Refer to our website*

We have set some work that can be done on a digital service such as a laptop, desktop, tablet or smartphone. You do not need a printer to access our home learning. Parents and carers should set age-appropriate parental controls on any devices your child is using and supervise their use of websites and apps. We must work together to ensure that our children are safe online. It is vital that parents and carers help young children to get into healthy screen time habits. Parents should manage screen time with a timer to be clear about when devices are being turned off and put away. Parents must control how their children use their screen time. You know what is best for your child.

- ✓ **Safe Screen Time and Online Safety Advice** *Refer to our website*
- ✓ **Oak National Academy and BBC Bitesize** *Refer to our website*

Please aim to send at least one email a week to your child's class teacher so that we can 'keep in touch' with you and your child. We would like to know that your child is safe, well, happy and learning.

nursery@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk
year1@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

reception@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk
year2@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk



Your child's Education City account is updated regularly by your child's class teacher. There are many great online learning activities so please do find time every week to have a look with your child. Many children love Education City and are using it well to support their learning. The teachers can monitor how often this resource is used by the children in their class. Miss Doxey is proud that 24 children in her class have been busy learning with Education City this week. Great work Class 4! If you need any help logging on, please email your child's teacher using the year group email address.



Nursery Admissions

For children due to start Nursery in September 2020

(Age 3 before 31.8.20)

We do still have places remaining. To make an enquiry, please email Mrs Howett:

nursery@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk



Reception Admissions

For children due to start school in September 2020

(Age 4 before 31.8.20)

We do still have places remaining. To make an enquiry, please ring Derby City Admissions team 01332 642730.



Contacting School

During this school closure, we will not always be able to answer telephone calls or listen and respond to answer phone messages. Please be patient with us. Staff are expected to work from home, where possible, and can be contacted by email.

Senior Leadership Team

leadership@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Diffin, Mrs Howett, Mrs Asghar, Mrs Vincett, Mrs Kelly, Mrs Manners)

Safeguarding Team

safeguarding@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Diffin, Mrs Howett, Mrs Asghar, Mrs Vincett, Mrs Leadbeater, Mrs Dearie)

Year Group Teachers

nursery@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Howett)

reception@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Unwin-Rose, Miss Brown, Mrs Orme)

year1@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Miss Doxey, Miss Harker, Miss Luke)

year2@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk

(Mrs Dalton, Mrs Asghar, Miss Swain)

7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures.

1 Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading, wherever it is!

2 Ask your child lots of questions



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

3 Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

4 Ask your child to summarise what they have read



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

5 Ask your child to write about what they have read



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

7 Maintain the motivation to read



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'

Education Endowment Foundation (2018). *Preparing for Literacy: Improving Communication, Language and Literacy in the Early Years*. Education Endowment Foundation: London. Available online: [eef.org.uk/eef/publications/Preparing-for-Literacy-Improving-Communication-Language-and-Literacy-in-the-Early-Years](https://www.eef.org.uk/eef/publications/Preparing-for-Literacy-Improving-Communication-Language-and-Literacy-in-the-Early-Years)

Education Endowment Foundation (2019). *Improving Literacy in Secondary Schools*. Education Endowment Foundation: London. Available online: [eef.org.uk/eef/publications/Improving-Literacy-in-Secondary-Schools](https://www.eef.org.uk/eef/publications/Improving-Literacy-in-Secondary-Schools)

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