



# December 2021 Newsletter

*Helping your child develop a love for life and learning*

Value of the month – Perseverance and Resilience

## A MESSAGE FROM MRS O'BRIEN

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Well what a week!** I never thought I would see schools shutting for a second time within a year but here we are. Like you, I was gripped to the Prime Ministers announcement at 8pm on Monday and was hugely disappointed to hear that we were closing again. Whilst we desperately tried to get the school open to the children of critical workers and those deemed vulnerable by Tuesday morning, it became clear that with over 150 requests for spaces that we would not achieve the government's goal. Thank you to those parents for remaining patient whilst I closed the school for an additional emergency planning day.

I am delighted we have been able to staff **18 bubbles, serving 165 children whilst maintaining a safe environment for children and staff.** The children have settled back into school life extremely well and whilst missing their friends who are at home, they are showing strength and positivity. I know that the list of critical workers is a long list and I would like to take this opportunity to thank those families who have found ways for their children to remain at home; by helping to reduce the number of children in school, you are playing a significant part in keeping our school community safe.

Whilst it is early days, I think the children **at home** are showing such resilience and commitment to their online learning; I am incredibly proud of them and so grateful to you for supporting them so well. As a parent myself, I understand the challenges that juggling home-schooling and a day job brings, as well as the impact of reduced social impact on children's mental health. Remember that **the most important thing at this time is the emotional well-being of you and your families** so please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, a senior leader, Mrs Ireland (Home Scholl Link Worker) or myself if you have any concerns about helping your children learn or you need any other support from the school.

With such little notice, staff have worked so hard this week to ensure good quality videos and resources are uploaded by 6pm every night; I am so proud of the team I work with. I hope that you are finding the Google Classroom an effective tool for your child's learning. I am delighted that staff will be building upon their good work from the last lockdown and will be organising **Google Meet sessions** from next week for your children to enjoy. In year 6, children will be invited to live lessons in Maths from Monday.

In addition, I will be leading **live assemblies** daily for children both at home and at school which I hope will be a positive experience. This month, our values are perseverance and resilience (which seem very relevant). I am sure you will have many examples of your child(ren) living by these values; I would love to hear about it (via my email: [head@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:head@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk)) so I can give them a 'special head teacher note of thanks'.

It leaves me to thank the Worpleston Primary School community; children, parents, staff and governors are all playing their part to get through this second lockdown.

Stay safe, keep strong – we will get through this.

Best wishes,

Kareen O'Brien  
Head Teacher



# Updates & Dates



## DO YOU NEED SUPPORT?

Are you a family who need a little extra support during these difficult times? If so, we may be able to help with supplies such as...

- Food items
- Toiletries
- Nappies etc

If you think you may qualify a referral can be made to our Home School Link Worker, Mrs Ireland [jireland@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:jireland@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk), who will let you know if we can help.

## VACANCY

We are currently looking for someone to join our cleaning team on a temporary basis. If you are interested please contact Jenny Ireland, our School Business Manager [jireland@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:jireland@worplesdon.surrey.sch.uk) for more information.



## Guildford Family Centre's virtual offer Jan-Feb 2020:

- **Family Advice Sessions** (One on one – Telephone sessions)
  - Runs weekly (3 days a week)
  - 30 minutes call with a Family Support Worker
- **SENdsory Advice Sessions** (One on one – Telephone sessions)
  - Every Fri (10.30 – 11.00)
  - For families who have any concerns regarding any aspects of their child's development
- **Freedom** (Virtual 11-week course)
  - Starting Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 (10.00-11.30)
  - For women who are living with or who have left abusive relationships
- **Parenting Puzzle** (Virtual 4- Week course)
  - Starting Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Jan 2021 (10.30-11.30)
  - This Nurturing Programme gives you the tools you need to get the best out of your family life.
- **Little Chatterboxes** (Virtual 4- Week course)
  - Starting Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2021 (10.00-10.30)
  - for families who have concerns regarding their child's language and speech development
- **Welcome to the World** (Virtual 4- Week course)
  - Starting Tue 19<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021 (14.00-15.00)
  - For new and expecting parents

**All our sessions are free.**

**Bookings are essential, as places are limited.**

**T: 01483 510 570**

