



**Friars Primary Foundation School**  
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W: [www.friarsprimaryschool.com](http://www.friarsprimaryschool.com)  
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Date: 12.02.21

Dear Parents

## **Weekly update**

### **Thankyou!**

And so, here we are ready for the half term break! It has been another unusual and challenging half term but we have all rallied together to ensure the children have been able to keep up with their learning as best as possible. I have some thankyou's. Firstly, to the parents and family members who have had the enormously tricky job of managing your own lives as well as having to help your children with their learning. Many of the staff here are parents too and we don't find it easy either, so we really do empathise with you. You have done a fantastic job in very tricky circumstances. Secondly, I want to thank all the staff. The teachers have had to work incredibly hard meeting all of the necessary online learning expectations as well as being in school supporting the children who are in. We have a great collaborative team here who have all helped each other out with the shared goal of continuing the children's education. Also, the TAs and other staff who have been in regularly supporting attending children have done an amazing job. The final group I want to thank are of course the children. They have shown resilience, determination, imagination, good humour and a better grasp of technology than many adults! We salute you all!

### **Half term scavenger hunt:**

As I said in my weekly assembly today, we are not setting any work at all over the half term break and the school will not be open either. We think it is very important that families get a break from online learning and I have encouraged the children to get exercise, read a book, play games and talk to each other (bearing in mind current lockdown rules). Yesterday, we texted and emailed a suggested "scavenger hunt" to do if and when you get out for exercise. It is optional and will not be marked but teachers will ask about it in their google meets on the first day back after half term.

### **Google classroom reminder:**

Please can parents always make sure your children have logged in as themselves and not someone else when using Google classroom. All children have their own email addresses and they should not be using anyone else's. Thanks!

### **Contact tracing over half term:**

This really only applies to the parents of children that are currently attending school. We will continue with contact tracing in the event of positive cases through to Sunday February 14th. If children who have attended school become symptomatic and subsequently test positive for Covid they must contact the school office up until 4pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>, parents of children with confirmed cases must contact us using the email address: [confirmedcovid@friars.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:confirmedcovid@friars.southwark.sch.uk). There is no need to report any cases if your child becomes symptomatic or tests positive from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February. Please remember that your child and

**Headteacher: Justin Burt**

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household must self-isolate for 10 days from the first day of symptoms or if asymptomatic from the day the test was taken.

### **Access to technology:**

We are pleased to let you know that we have now been able to give out over 40 laptops, Chromebook and iPad to support children's access to technology this half term. This represents over 20% of the school role which is fantastic. The devices came from our existing stock, allocations from the DfE and most recently, a very kind donation from the good people at "My London Home Estate Agents" who are currently running a crowdfunding campaign to get devices into schools.



### **FSM provision over half term:**

As most will know, Southwark council, through the Covid winter fund, are paying for £15 food vouchers over the half term period for all FSM eligible children and any other parents who asked for them. We put up a form on the website and texted the link to the form to all parents last Friday. That form is now closed. Thankyou to those parents who completed it. The vouchers (Tesco) have now been ordered and will be delivered to your email addresses tomorrow.

### **Opening schools more fully:**

Like the rest of the population, schools will be told about the plans for a wider reopening of schools on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. What we do know is that schools will not open any earlier than March 8<sup>th</sup> and so for the first two weeks of the new half term, we will be carrying on with our current arrangements. We will, of course, keep you posted.

### **Chinese New Year:**

Today marks the beginning of the year of the Ox. Since we started doing Mandarin as our foreign language at Friars our friends at the Confucius Institute have always managed to put on a fantastic performance of music, dance and martial arts at this time of year. Although not possible, this year, we do hope the children enjoyed the video that we put on Google classroom today that explained about Chinese New Year and which delved into Chinese culture.



Yours sincerely,

新年快乐 / 新年快樂 (Xīnnián kuàilè)

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**Rose VOUCHERS**  
for **fruit & veg**

**Would you like to buy more fruit & vegetables?  
Do you have a child under 5 years old?**

You may be able to receive Rose Vouchers for Fruit & Veg which can be spent on fruit & vegetables at East Street Market and with market traders in Peckham.

**Who is it for?**  
The vouchers are for pregnant women and families with children under 5 years old, who:

- live in SE1, SE5 or SE17
- receive Healthy Start vouchers
- are on a low income, or
- are refugees and asylum seekers (NRPF)

**How does it work?**

- Once registered you will receive four £1 Rose Vouchers per week for every eligible child until they start in Reception, and six vouchers for 0-1 year olds
- You will also receive four vouchers a week for each sibling under 11 years old

To find out if you can receive Rose Vouchers and how to register, please phone 020 7740 8070 or email: [childrenscentre@1stplace.uk.com](mailto:childrenscentre@1stplace.uk.com)

Alexandra Rose Charity  
1st Place  
GLY'S & ST THOMAS' CHARITY  
Southwark  
EAST STREET MARKET

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Friday 12th February 2021

A Palindromic Date

**12022021**

When will there be another  
palindromic date?

**MATHSTICKS**

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