



Margaret Roper Catholic Primary School

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Friday 29th January 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors,

Prime Minister's statement on the national lockdown position

This week, the Prime Minister announced that it will not be possible to resume face-to-face learning immediately after the February half-term and instead hopes it will be safe to commence the reopening of schools and colleges from Monday 8th March 2021. This is in response to the national public health data and pressure on NHS capacity. If the government achieves its target of vaccinating everyone in the four most vulnerable groups with their first dose by 15 February then those groups will have developed immunity from the virus around three weeks later, that is by 8th March. It is for this reason that they hope it will therefore be safe to commence the reopening of schools from Monday 8th March. Education settings, as well as students, parents and carers will be given at least two weeks' notice to prepare for a return to face-to-face education.

Schools and colleges will remain open to vulnerable children and young people and the children of critical workers after February half-term, as they are now. All other students will continue to receive high quality remote education at home. This is in line with the wider national lockdown measures to help minimise the spread of the virus and respond quickly to the new variant.

February half-term

The government has announced that schools will close as usual over February half-term and are not expected to remain open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers during that week. However, Skillz are offering a half term holiday sports cam, which some working parents may wish to access:

Superstar Campz will be running their Award-Winning Sports Holiday Camp here at Margaret Roper Catholic Primary School, for children of key / critical workers during February half term! Their Covid safe camps have been a huge hit at the school since they reopened in the summer, with over 1,300 visits!

The camp is open to ages 5-11 between 8.30am - 5.30pm, and 4 year olds between 9.15am - 12.15pm, during February half term 15th - 19th February

Operated by Coach Ashley and the Skillz team who deliver our PE lessons for all age groups, the days consist of non stop multi sports fun including gymnastics, football, bouncy castle, multi sports, team games and much more!

To book your space, visit www.superstarcampz.co.uk

Testing in school

From this week, all staff in primary schools have been invited by the NHS to participate in home testing on a twice weekly basis to help identify asymptomatic Covid-19 cases. We commenced testing this week. This is for staff, not pupils, but you may have seen coverage of it in the media.

Devices for pupils

The school has been issued with 7 laptops from the DfE and has also purchased a set of Chromebooks for loan to pupils who do not have good access to laptops and computers in order to complete their class work. Many of these have been deployed already and I am currently working with an organisation to secure some more legacy machines from business. Please let me know if you would like to apply for a loan device to assist your children in their learning – we may be able to help. Email me at head@margaretroper.croydonsch.uk

Stars of the week – Well done!

Class	Stars of the week
RED	Alexia & Arabella
ORANGE	Anna & Zoe
YELLOW	Arthur & Ryan
GREEN	Michael & Armaan
BLUE	Christi & Arthur
INDIGO	Alex & Gabriella
AMETHYST	Bobby & Henry
VIOLET	Anna & Catherine

Birthdays this week:

In assembly we said happy birthday to Louis in Y6 and To Mrs Brotherton and Mrs Messette who have all had birthdays in the past week.

Miss Holloway's Keeping in Touch 'Photo' newsletter

Miss Holloway thanks everyone who sent her pictures; she's had kittens, work, children in the snow and so on. She thinks that more people might like to send her pics, so see below. She will compile her picture newsletter next week.

If you would like to send her a photograph to include in this new newsletter then please do so. Photos could include... new pets (or existing pets), baking, views from walks, poems or stories children may have written, lego models etc etc

Please send to Miss Holloway's class email address violet@margaretroper.croydon.sch.uk with the subject line 'Keeping in touch'

Please only send photos you are happy for Miss Holloway to share with the whole school community.

Have a good weekend

Miss Holloway and Mr Mooney