



## **HILLINGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

*Learning and Achieving Together*

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**Friday 3rd April 2020**

### **End of Term**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today is the last day of term although we will remain open for all those pupils needing essential childcare as their parents are key workers. We now have a booking system for all children of key workers. Each week, if you are a key worker, you will receive an email from Mrs Childs (Welfare Lead) so that you can book for the following week. Please let us know if you would like to be removed from the list at any point.

Mrs Childs has provided her email to all key workers so that they can, if necessary, discuss their requirements with her, particularly if parents need further flexibility. As before, please continue to be patient with us if we appear to be asking similar questions or asking about your shift pattern etc. This is all new to us and we are only trying to preempt the childcare needs for the following week and the number of staff needed. We are very keen to support all our key workers and very happy to do so. Staff are keen to do 'their bit' and are working on a rota to cover essential childcare. There was no problem covering the Easter childcare break although we are also balancing this with the need to minimise numbers on site to ensure it is as safe as possible for all.

A special thank-you to the staff teams working over Easter who have agreed to move their Easter break and also work Bank Holiday so we can provide essential childcare. Thank-you to Mrs Childs whose efficiency has enabled us to organise the booking form and gather the information we need to plan ahead while also building in flexibility for parents who need it.

Regrettably, but understandably The Elliot Foundation Academy Trust (TEFAT) has decided, in discussion with its schools, that we need to close down the Google classrooms over the two week holidays. This is different to the information I gave last week.

Pupils working in classrooms are entering into dialogues with their peers and teachers which helps their learning. These conversations are monitored closely so that nothing inappropriate is said online and teachers have been quick to guide pupils in how they speak with each other when working online. However, the majority of teachers/staff will be on leave during the next two weeks so we are closing the classrooms. They will reopen on Monday 20th April at 9.30 am.



A member of the Elliot Foundation Academy Trust

The Early Years website will remain online as this does not allow for commentary or dialogue between children/staff.

It is important that during the week of Monday 20th April all pupils have accessed their Google Classroom, if they have the appropriate technology.

Please email [hillprimary@hillingdonprimaryschool.org.uk](mailto:hillprimary@hillingdonprimaryschool.org.uk) if you have any login issues and we will aim to help with all queries during the first week back after the holidays.

We are working hard with TEFAT to provide technology for those pupils who do not have access and are aiming for a solution next term.

Pupils can still continue with their work packs although I would be inclined to encourage as much reading as possible and to check all marking of the CPG books has been completed so that pupils have finished all that they started over the last two weeks ready to start afresh on Monday 20th April.

As a reminder, all recent educational research has said that reading fiction and non-fiction books is the key to success. It is not a surprise but how many times do we complicate learning tasks when sitting and reading a book is more productive? So if your child returns to school having read all of Michael Morpurgo's animal books or knows all about climate change from a science book that will be an educational success.

This week, as promised, we have asked ourselves the questions: what is going well with home learning and what do we need to improve? We will continue to discuss these points and refine our home learning offer to pupils and communicate to parents.

We are planning a newsletter to summarise the spring term. We have been home learning for two weeks now but it is worth reminding ourselves of all the wonderful activities and events that happened before we had to close. We will send a newsletter to all our families at the beginning of the summer term.

We continue to think of you all and last night were again clapping loudly for our NHS workers.

School will continue but on a very small staff so any communication with parents, apart from essential childcare, will restart in the new term.

I hope you will find some peace during the next two weeks.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Ann Bowen-Breslin' in a cursive style.

**Ann Bowen-Breslin**  
**Principal**