

# Nacton Church of England Primary

## Newsletter

### Summer No.1



22<sup>nd</sup> April 2020

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**Summer term:** I would love to be able to say that we are enjoying the start of the Summer Term all together at school. Unfortunately this isn't the case, however we have enjoyed logging back into Class Dojo and Tapestry and seeing the children that way. I hope that during the Easter holiday you were able to relax and have some enjoyable time together as family.

**Opening times:** Before the Easter holiday we had a small number of pupils using the emergency childcare that schools were asked to provide. We put in a place a staff rota, to ensure the minimum number of staff were in school, while maintaining appropriate ratios. We now no longer have pupils requiring childcare at present, this means that staff are working predominately from home. Staff are occasionally in school, but this is as infrequently as possible, as per the Government's guidelines. If you fit the criteria for your child to be in school and you find that you need us to provide emergency childcare please email the school; [admin@nacton.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@nacton.suffolk.sch.uk) . Please be aware that we need a minimum of two pupils to open the school.

**Free School Meals:** If your child is entitled to Free School Meals (not Universal Infant Free Schools Meals) we are signed up to the National Scheme to provide you with vouchers to cover the cost of providing your child with lunch. Due to the current situation affecting us all, it may be that you are now eligible. I would highly recommend applying online if you think you might fit the criteria. Once your eligibility is confirmed we will arrange vouchers for you immediately. Vouchers can be used at: Sainsbury's, Tesco, Asda, Morrisons, M&S Food, Waitrose and now Aldi too. Please click [here](#) to find out further information and to apply.

**Home Learning:** The teachers are working hard to set learning activities that are achievable for you to complete at home. This is very different to what we are used to so do please bear with us. We certainly much prefer to be with the children supporting them in the classroom. Please do remember; that there isn't an expectation to complete everything set and that they may need your support if they find something challenging. We only ask that you do as much as you can to support your child's education alongside their mental health.

We are already beginning to put videos from staff onto Class Dojo and Tapestry. We also welcome videos and messages from the pupils. I personally have really enjoyed a video of a child reading a story to me and seeing pictures of what the children are doing at home. All of the staff are really missing being in school, seeing each other and the pupils. We appreciate that this is a challenging time for parents too; trying to support their children with home learning (made more difficult by the differing ages), provide emotional support for their children all whilst trying to work from home themselves. We are trying our hardest to provide work for your children which meets their needs but is also manageable for yourselves. The last thing we want to do is to add additional stress during these already stressful times.

We are also recommending a variety of different sites on Class Dojo too, so do please check in. Don't forget that the children have access to TTRockstars (Year1 -6) to practice their multiplications. We are also looking at ways to provide music lessons/activities to you online

We are looking to increase the number of videos we upload to Class Dojo and Tapestry. We are uploading to these sites as they can only be accessed by our pupils and parents and, not the wider public.

At present we aren't planning any live lessons. This is for a number of reasons including; the difficulty of arranging times that suit everyone in the class, making sure that it is a secure network which can't be interrupted by people hacking in, making sure that all pupils have equal access, as well as safeguarding issues that could arise. Another point to consider is that a number of staff are in the position of working from home and caring for their own families. This can make it difficult for them to be able to carry out live lessons at a time that is convenient for our pupils.

Please do continue to comment on posts and share videos and pictures with us. We really enjoy seeing the learning activities that the children have completed. The teachers are then able to write comments to the children, they can write back to us too.

As this is an unprecedented time, we appreciate your support and understanding while we adjust to distance learning. We do appreciate feedback and will continue to try our best to support our pupils and families.

**Lent Challenge:** It seems like such a long time ago that we set our Lent Challenge. We will still celebrate any attempt to complete their Lent Challenge. If your child took part please take a photograph and post it on Tapestry/Class Dojo or send it in a message to me on Class Dojo. We will present them with a certificate, initially on Tapestry/Class Dojo and then presented officially to them once we return to school.

**Department for Education:** I continue to get daily Covid-19 emails from the Department of Education with updates on the situation for schools. What we don't know is when schools will re-open. The government are releasing documents to support schools and also parents too such as [Supporting your children's education during coronavirus \(Covid-19\)](#) and [Guidance on supporting children and young peoples' mental health and wellbeing guidance for parents and carers](#) (please click to access).

**PE Activities:** I know that a lot of families have been joining in with 'PE with Joe Wicks' but there are some other possible activities available too. Xtra-Time, who run some of our after school clubs, have added some 'PE at Home' activities on their website <https://xtratimesportsdevelopment.co.uk/pe-at-home.aspx> to help provide some inspiration on staying active.

All of the children have had yoga sessions in school run by Louise, Treefrog Yoga. Louise is currently running free live sessions for children who have taken part in her yoga before. All you need to do is to contact her on [louise@treefroggyoga.co.uk](mailto:louise@treefroggyoga.co.uk) and mention your child is a pupil at our school, you will then get details for the classes. You can find out more on her [Facebook page](#) or her [website](#). If there is a lot of interest from our school then she is happy to do a special session just for our pupils.

The inclusion of details of extra-curricular, local and out-of-School activities in this Newsletter in no way implies that they are supported or endorsed by Nacton C of E Primary School, its Governors or any member of Staff. Parents are advised to make the appropriate enquiries regarding supervision, insurance and other matters.

### ***Useful Contact Numbers***

**Looking for advice on your child's medical needs? Contact:**

School nurse: 01473 275838

School Nurse Chathealth text number 07507 333356

**Are you concerned about the welfare or safety of a child? Contact:**

Customer First: **0808 800 4005**

