

# Waterhouses CE Primary Academy

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3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Dear Parent, Carers, Local Governors, Volunteers and Friends of Waterhouses Primary

## End of our Spring Term

We hope you are all keeping well and are coping with the social distancing measures the government has identified as being so essential to dealing with the COVID-19 virus.

We also hope that children have been able to keep in touch with the class teachers via the class dojos. A few parents don't seem to have gone onto the system. If anyone is having any issues accessing this communication link, please email the school office and we will ask the teachers to resend your access links.

## Home Learning webpage

Mrs Lafford has been busy this week creating a new page on our website, **Home Learning**, in the Parents area of the website, onto which images and information are being uploaded so children can see what their class friends have been up to. This will go live at some point today, so do take a look. The local newspaper is also interested in some stories of what fun things you are all getting up to whilst staying home, so we will share some of these with them.

If you have any general feedback about the home learning, do let us know.

## School Meals

Last week our school kitchen staff provided food parcels to some of the Universal Free School Meal (UFSM) families and to the means-tested Free School Meal (FSM) families. The government has now clarified that only the FSM children should be provided for during the time our school is closed to all but Critical Workers. Therefore, hopefully on the Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April, some further food parcels will be provided to our FSM children to cover two weeks. Thereafter we are joining the National Government Scheme of providing vouchers to these families for them to spend at a major supermarket of their choice. Most parents will receive the voucher information via email, which can be presented on your device eg phone at the checkout. If a parent has no email, we will be in touch to make alternative arrangements.

## Free School Meals status

If your circumstances have changed and you think you might be entitled for means-tested free school meals status, please ensure that you go to the Staffordshire County Council website and make an application. Once confirmed we will be able to provide you with access to food as above.

<https://apps2.staffordshire.gov.uk/WEB/FSMWeb/>

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### Waterhouses Parish Council Newsletter

Our local parish council have also put out a newsletter with lots of useful information to be aware of at this time:

<https://waterhousesparishcouncil.co.uk/waterhouses-community-newsletter/>

### Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

SMDC are prepared to defer a couple of your monthly council tax payments this summer to Feb/Mar 2021, to ease finances at this time. Just contact them online if this is something that will be helpful.

<https://www.staffsmoorlands.gov.uk/article/4844/Council-Tax-Support>

**Parents' Consultations** - teachers will be sending out a short written update. This will be sent via the dojo if parents have access to it, or emailed out if not. If anyone has not received any communication by the end of next week please email the school office. Thank you.



### **Suggestion for reading:**

How about accessing David Walliams' story per day in addition to your own reading? You can find this at:

<https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevenses/>

**Half Term Value** -Our next half term value will be **Perseverance** (linked to the QEGSMAT value of **Succeed**), a good value to focus on to carry us through these difficult times.



All the staff at **Waterhouses CE Primary Academy** wish you and your families a happy and safe Easter. Teachers will re commence the setting of formal learning the week commencing Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> April.