

30.3.2020

Coronavirus update

Dear parents & carers,

As we begin the second full week of school closure, I wanted to write to thank you all. We are in an extremely unsettling and worrying time and I am grateful to all of you for keeping your children safely at home. It was moving to listen to the applause and cheering for the NHS workers last Thursday – true heroes one and all.

We have purchased ASDA vouchers for all children eligible for free school meals who are staying at home during school closure. These vouchers are being sent out via email and will enable you to purchase food for your children. Please note that these vouchers are not available to children in R, Y1 and Y2 who normally receive a free lunch. If you think you may now be eligible for Free School Meals please follow this link and complete the form. <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

The best thing you can do for your children right now is to keep them safe at home and spend as much time with them as you are able. Each household is trying to juggle different circumstances and each day will often be different to the next. Try to do some maths (Instant Recall Facts or Times Table Rock Stars) and reading each day. We will continue to update our website with home learning sheets each fortnight for those that find them useful. There is **no expectation** to complete these tasks. We would love to see some of the fun things you are getting up to at home, whether they are from our learning sheets or not. You can share them with the school community by posting them to our Facebook or Twitter page (@NewParkPri)

We continue to be open for our most vulnerable children and children of critical workers and are aiming to stay open during the Easter holidays. Some of you will be ending your periods of self-isolation in the coming weeks. You must contact school if you are going to require childcare as we are keeping staffing levels to an absolute minimum in order to reduce the spread of any germs.

It is important for all of us to look after our own mental health during this time. Every Mind Matters has excellent advice on their website <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-at-home-tips>

With my very best wishes,

Mr Mold