

RODE AND NORTON ST PHILIP SCHOOL FEDERATION: NEWSLETTER 16

8th January 2021

rodeandnortonschoolfederation.co.uk

Rode Early Bird and Stay and Play Team

bookingsatrodeandnorton@gmail.com

OFSTED Registration: EY489041

Dear Parents and Carers,

Message from Mrs Muxworthy

Christmas already seems a distant memory after all the developments in the news this week but on behalf of the staff I would like to say a huge **thank you** for all the generous gifts and snacks you kindly gave us. Very gratefully received at the end of a challenging year and just what we need to power us forward into 2021.

I would like to thank the staff for their dedication this week as they have put in many extra hours of work in order to prepare school for our Lockdown Learners as well as setting up systems for Home Learning with only 24 hours' notice.

We know how difficult it can be for parents too, when trying to support the children in their learning whilst also working from home. My advice is to try and find a daily routine that involves short bursts of academic work interspersed with videos, walks and exercise. Try not to be too hard on yourself and just do what you can.

All the staff are working in school every day. Teachers will be teaching in school in the morning and preparing content for Home Learners in the afternoons. Teaching Assistants will be working with the children throughout the day in school.

We are experimenting with some new technologies, learning lessons from last lockdown and always looking to improve and develop our offer. As we move forward our remote-learning will evolve to include videos, Zoom, Sway, MS Teams etc. Feedback is welcomed in order to help us reflect and refine.

Home learners will have an opportunity to share their work on '**Feedback Fridays**' (Can anyone think of a better name?) Friday is the day to email one or two photos to class teachers which showcase the week's learning. We will then celebrate achievements with the whole class. It would help the teachers to manage the volume of daily emails if you reserve photos to only send on Fridays.

Our new topic this term is '**Far, Far Away**' in which we will be able to travel around the world via books, stories and the internet, to compensate for the fact that we cannot go anywhere in real life! We look forward to travelling with you and discovering the geography, music, language, food, art, history and culture of other countries.

INSET Day Training

On Monday 4th January school staff along with the IG Sports team, took part in a training day with **Bristol Scrapstore Playpod** team. I am pleased to report that we will be purchasing a Playpod for each site that will be regularly re-filled with loose parts and 'scrap' from industry such as cable reels, nets, tubes, dressing-up costumes, crates etc. Scrapstore are leading the staff in developing our outdoor play provision in a very child-led way which puts the children in charge of taking care of the materials and organising their play. Plans will obviously now be delayed but we look forward to our Playpods arriving later this year.

Message From Mrs Tommey

TO ALL THE STAFF AND PARENTS OF RODE AND NORTON SCHOOL FEDERATION

What a wonderful surprise it was, to open up a very special box, tied with a beautiful red ribbon to find the most valuable John Lewis gift card I have ever seen! Thank you all so much for your outstanding generosity which has literally taken my breath away and has made me feel well and truly appreciated. I will be sure to purchase something very special to remind me of the wonderful 19 years I spent at Rode & Norton St Philip and all the amazing staff and fantastic parents and children I had the privilege to meet. Many thanks too for all the tear-jerking cards and other fabulous gifts I received, all of which I will cherish always. Stay safe everyone and I look forward to seeing you soon.

COVID

Our Coronavirus safety measures remain the same:

- Parents and carers must ensure they maintain a 2m distance at all times from other parents, staff and other children.
- Only one parent or carer onto the school site wearing a mask if possible.
- Use hand gel on arrival at school and wash hands when you get home.

CORONAVIRUS IN CHILDREN – SYMPTOMS AND TESTING.

The three main symptoms of coronavirus in children have been clarified by NHS. They are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If any child or adult displays these symptoms please refer to the following NHS guidelines for further information on what you should do:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

If you have any questions about your child having Coronavirus symptoms please contact one of the following member of our senior staff, not your class teachers:

George Muxworthy: gmuxworthy@educ.somerset.gov.uk

Kim Slade: kslade@educ.somerset.gov.uk

More information about symptoms and testing is available [here](#):

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS TO FIRST AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS

The closing date of 15 January for Middle school applications for September 2021 is fast approaching. The 15 January is also the deadline for applications for September 2021 Reception places, please remind your friends with any Pre-school aged children to make their application by the deadline.

Applications can be submitted to [Somerset County Council's school admission website](#).

Georgina Muxworthy
Head Teacher
Rode and Norton St Philip School Federation

COMMUNITY NEWS

[FAIR FROME](#)

Takeaway Food at Five

Starting 4th January 5pm weekly

Mondays - Mount Community Hut

Wednesdays - Frome Cricket Club Thursdays –

Trinity Church Hall

Hot, healthy, freshly cooked meals free to anyone on benefits or low income, just turn up. Strict social distancing and hygiene practices will be in place and we kindly ask you help us with this to keep everyone safe

Vegetarian option available

Contact us for more information on 01373 488578 or fairfromeinfo@gmail.com