

# TURNFURLONG TIMES

Friday 8th January 2021

## New Years Message

Even though this may seem an age away, we do hope that you had a restful and peaceful Christmas break and we would like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

It has certainly been a memorable 12 months. There have been many challenges for us all. Despite these challenging times, opportunities have presented themselves to us, many of us has discovered new ways of working together, working from home and supporting each other. It may be some time before we return to 'normal' but we are just as dedicated as ever in providing your child with an excellent level of education and a warm and welcoming environment.

As a school, these challenges and opportunities are vast. With less than 12 hours notice, our staff rallied together for our community, to ensure our children were able to receive good home learning. Teachers have been hard at work planning and delivering lessons in a digital environment, Teaching Assistants have welcomed children of Critical Workers into school with reassuring messages of support and encouragement, our lunchtime staff who are here to oversee the children's playtime, office staff who are supporting parents through this transition, and our premises staff who have maintained their excellent standard of cleaning within the school so that we all remain safe. We would like to thank each and every member of staff because they are **all** vital to our success.

I extremely proud of the resilience of the children and their ability to adapt under these circumstances. The support from parents has been amazing and we thank you for your encouragement and patience.

There may be further obstacles ahead but I have every certainty that we can rise to these challenges if we do it together.

Mrs Divers

**Headteacher**

## Critical Workers School Places

For those parents whose children have been given places at school, please continue to use Schoolgateway to book your child onto the days they need to attend, this must be done by 12noon on the day before. If you need to cancel a booking, please call the office who can do this for you.

If you need to use the Early Riser facility, again please book this via Schoolgateway and ensure you complete your booking by going to the payments section.



It is very important that you book your days in advance so that we can ensure our staffing levels are correct. Please do not book for days where you can safely keep your child at home. We need to manage the risks and keep everybody safe. We have received a very high number of requests and we are doing our best to accommodate these, but we may have to review the places offered due to the increasing demand for places.

Thank you

### Remote Learning

This week we launched our remote learning and apart from initial technical glitches this has worked really well. In addition to the planned timetable, from next week there will be additional pre-recorded lessons available in the Home Learning classroom that the children will be able to access. Initially these will be: French, Music, Guided Reading, PSHCE and an additional challenge of British Sign Language (BSL). We want to offer as many opportunities for the children to have an exciting curriculum, but we are currently limited by the restraints of having staggered Google Meets we hope that having these additional optional lessons available will help.

If you are struggling to access any of the platforms that we use— Google Classroom, Spelling Shed, TT Rocks e.t.c We have added some help guides to the [school website under Online Learning](#).



### Trips Cancelled

Unfortunately due to the continuing situation, we have made the difficult decision to cancel the trip to France.

I know some families will be disappointed by this, but we need to keep everybody safe. The school office will be processing the refunds as soon as possible.



### Wellbeing Activities

At TJS we are extremely proud of all of the wider opportunities that we are normally able to offer and this is evident in the wide variety of clubs, trips and activities that we organise. As a school community, I know we are really missing this element of school life. From next week we will be able to offer two virtual clubs:

#### **Mondays— International club with Madam Andrew**

Pizza, Spaghetti bolognese, lasagne...yum yum! We love all these dishes from Italy but how about learning more about this country? Join Madam Andrew on Monday to learn about all these scrumptious foods, fun facts and some new vocabulary! Each week we will focus on a different county—hope to see you there. Ciao!



#### **Thursdays— Virtual school choir with Miss Kearns**

What better way than to sing your worries away! We had hoped to be going to Young Voices again this year, so have purchased the resources. We can't go in person now but we will be learning the songs virtually and hope to be able to have some form of performance at the end!

Both clubs will run via a Google classroom 3:30– 4:30, please sign up via School Gateway. There is no charge, but if families would like to make a donation towards the running costs, please do so on the payments section of Schoolgateway but this is not a requirement!

### Dates for your Diary

15/01/2020	Junior Transfer Applications Portal Closes
01/03/2021	Secondary School Offers
15/02/2021	Half term