

# The Federation of Boldmere Schools

Cofield Road · Sutton Coldfield · B73 5SD

*Our Vision: The Federation of Boldmere Schools empowers all children to embrace learning; achieve their personal best; and build their social, emotional and physical wellbeing.*

Dear Parents/Guardians

28th April 2020

We hope all of our school community, families and friends are continuing to stay safe during the ongoing challenges that we are all faced with at this present time.

## **Minute Silence For Key Workers**

At 11am in school today, along with the rest of the country we observed the minute silence to commemorate the key workers who have sadly lost their lives to Coronavirus.

More than 100 NHS and care staff have died from the virus, as have many transport and other key workers. Please stay at home, save lives and protect the NHS!

## **Nursery Places**

Nursery places have been offered for September 2020. Please note that the deadline to accept or decline the offer of place is **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020**. Email your reply to enquiry@boldmere-inf.bham.sch.uk attaching proof of address and reply slip. Please mark your email as NURSERY SEPTEMBER 2020.

## **Home Learning On The School Website Has Been Updated**

Updated resources are now available on the school website under the tab 'Home Learning'. Resources include;

-Curriculum based activities for each year group.

-The next part of the whole school project which is focusing on the continent 'Antarctica and can be found under 'Explorer's Project'.

-Wellbeing activities suggested by the wellbeing team under 'Wellbeing Resources'

Please do keep a close eye and check for updates on our school website and Twitter page as we are constantly updating these areas as and when additional resources become available.

## **Daily Online Phonics Lessons For Reception And Year One Children**

Attached is a letter with details of how your child can receive a daily phonics lesson (Monday to Friday) during the Summer term. The online lessons are designed to follow the phonics programme we teach at school.

## **Out Of The Ark Music Resources**



Out of the Ark Music have made a range resources available to you for use at home. To help with the rhythms and routines of your daily life, they are releasing seven songs, one for each day, all with challenges and activities related to each song. Some of the songs included are used in our assemblies at school so the children will be able to join in with many of them.

[https://www.outoftheark.co.uk/ootam-at-home/?utm\\_source=homepage&utm\\_campaign=ootamathome2&utm\\_medium=banner](https://www.outoftheark.co.uk/ootam-at-home/?utm_source=homepage&utm_campaign=ootamathome2&utm_medium=banner)

Happy Singing!

## **FSM Vouchers**

The second set of Free School Meal vouchers were sent out last week. You will receive an email from Edenred with details on how to claim the vouchers. To save time with administration we have decided to send out 4 week's worth of vouchers at one time. So the next time we will send out vouchers will be week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020. Expiry date on the vouchers has now been extended to four months. We have noticed that there are a large amount of people who have not yet claimed their vouchers, please make sure that you follow the instructions and claim your vouchers before the expiry date. **Please check your trash/junk mail if you are eligible but have not yet received your email from Edenred.** If you are having any issues with using the Edenred system you can contact them direct on 0333 400 5932 or email [freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com](mailto:freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com) . When using the Edenred system to redeem vouchers it seems the peak times are from 8am-2.30pm so it may be better to avoid the system around these times.

## **Year 3 Allocation To Boldmere Junior School (current year 2 parents)**

If your child is currently in year 2, you should by now have been sent your year 3 offer email from Birmingham School Admissions and you may also have received the offer letter from them by post. Please note that due to COVID-19, parents/carers are NOT required to accept their offers. The process has been adapted so all offers are considered as '**accepted**' unless you, as the parent/carer, notify Birmingham School Admissions of your **refusal** by emailing the following dedicated email address by the 30 April 2020: AdmissionsOfferRefusal@Birmingham.gov.uk  
Any concerns or questions in relation to this, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## **Advice For Parents/Carers Looking After Children With Special Educational Needs And Disabilities**

The DfE released this guidance on the 19 April 2020. It gives parent's access to on line resources for children with SEND; coronavirus educational resources from the Sensory Projects, SEND-specific resources for learning from home from Tech Ability; advice on supporting children with learning disability or ASD from the Council for Disabled children.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

## **Skills Toolkit**

A new online learning platform is being launched today (28<sup>th</sup> April). There are a range of free courses to enable adults to boost their skills whilst at home. The Skills Tool Kit gives people access to free, high-quality digital and numeracy courses to help build up their skills, progress in their work and boost their job prospects. Courses have been developed by the Open University, Google Digital Garage, University of Leeds, Lloyds Bank and many others. If you are interested and wish to visit the site, google The Skills Tool Kit. All of the courses are accredited through a digital badge scheme and have clear timescales for completion.

## **Message From Sutton Coldfield Together**

Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council is working with the Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust, voluntary, community and faith organisations across Sutton Coldfield to ensure vulnerable residents, older people, individuals and families can get the support they need at this difficult time.

A new Sutton Coldfield Together website [tiny.cc/suttontogether](http://tiny.cc/suttontogether) has been created where residents can get help with shopping and other essentials, arrange a hot meal delivery service by a local charitable organisation and find information on the support that is available

If any have families are experiencing financial hardship please get in touch with Hope For Sutton ([h4s.h2h@gmail.com](mailto:h4s.h2h@gmail.com)). This is a service offered by St James Church, Mere Green that provides food supplies and hot meals for families facing financial and other difficulties.

Please see the attached leaflet for more details.

## **Invitation For Community Grants To Help Children And Families**

Dear All

Birmingham City Council has announced today £0.8m emergency funding to help children and families. Community, voluntary and faith groups who are helping children, young people and families through the challenges of Covid-19 are invited to apply for grants of up to £10,000 to continue supporting families through this difficult period.

All voluntary, community and faith groups are invited to bid for funding to support their activities, through a simple and accelerated process designed to get the money out the door to where it will make the most difference. **Go to [www.birmingham.gov.uk/Covid19CYPF](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/Covid19CYPF) for more details on Local Leads and Proposal Form.**

All support should be designed to put prevention and early help first, for example:

- A local community group for parents of children with autism wants to provide online activity packs for the children but needs new software. A grant of £300 would help to support the children and parents.
- A local mosque that previously ran family support sessions, with stay and play, and lots of activities for children wants to ring all the parents that are on their database, three times a week. A grant of £2,500 will enable the mosque to pay a professionally trained worker to support families.
- A local charity runs services for families in the city, particularly more vulnerable families and young people. The £10,000 grant will enable them to expand over their domestic abuse support programme over the next four months.

This is part of the **Birmingham Children's Partnership** response to Covid-19 for our families. Birmingham Children's Partnership includes Birmingham City Council, Birmingham Children's Trust, Birmingham and Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group, Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust and West Midlands Police.

## **Our Place**

A reminder that in response to the current pandemic, Our Place Support have set up a **Covid-19 information service** to help individuals and families to the access support packages available from the Government and give information on **Benefit entitlements, Housing and Employment matters**.

We are aware that some individuals and families that have been affected either directly or indirectly by Covid-19 have not yet looked at the support available to them. We encourage anyone that anticipates they will need to access these support packages to do so now so that they don't find themselves in a situation with no income at all as a result of benefit applications/support schemes taking longer than usual to register for and be considered.



### **Covid-19 Information Service**

Benefits • Employment • Housing

Monday to Friday 10am-12noon



07545 378 181  
(To arrange a call back)



Covid19info@ourplacesupport.org



[www.ourplacesupport.org/advice-service](http://www.ourplacesupport.org/advice-service)

Our Place Support



Yours sincerely

Mr C Glasgow  
Executive Head Teacher

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Kenny  
Head of School

The Federation of Boldmere Schools:  
Boldmere Infant and Nursery School and Boldmere Junior School  
Executive Head: Mr Carl Glasgow  
Telephone: 0121 464 2338/3656 Fax: 0121 464 4342/1344  
Email: [enquiry@boldmere-inf.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@boldmere-inf.bham.sch.uk) / [enquiry@bldmerej.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@bldmerej.bham.sch.uk)