



1 year on in our pandemic journey– not a *birthday* any of us wanted to 'celebrate' but here we are...

It is great to see the **children back in school** and to see them play and learn together – Thank you to our staff for continuing to do their very best to keep the key daily business of teaching & learning with high expectations, as the priority, with the continued backdrop of 'bubbles' and cleaning and handwashing. And of course a big Thank you to you for your continued support...

**School attendance** is very good – thank you for your support in securing most children back in school.

**Please think of us** over the spring break if you are shopping – handwash and tissues are still a daily necessity OR if you are having a spring clean – we can make use of many things which you may have 'outgrown' or don't need anymore – please contact us if you think there is something we could use - we would of course quarantine any items...

We would also like to have a couple of **Foodbank Fridays** when we get back in the new term – so if you feel that you can give, please put the dates in your diaries – 16<sup>th</sup> April & 7<sup>th</sup> May - the Foodbanks you have supported during lockdown have been amazing – Thank you in anticipation.

It was strange to see a 'sea of red' instead of blue on Friday as the children took part in **Comic Relief**. Your generosity means that £326.52 will be going to the charity in the next few days – Thank you.

Our school version of World **Book Day** is happening on Thursday and the children will be coming home with their £1 book voucher as usual – please look out for them. Dear time (Drop everything and Read) is such a special time in our school day and I am sure will be enhanced on Thursday as we share old favourites and hear about new authors.

Over the holiday we still need to continue reporting anything of a Covid nature – to that end we will use the usual email account – [covid@yarmprimary.org.uk](mailto:covid@yarmprimary.org.uk) . If a pupil tests positive during the start of the holiday period it is vital that you message us, so that we can take appropriate action. Please only use the email for Covid related information and be aware that it is a 'receive only' address; therefore, you will not get a response. Thank you for your vigilance in this matter.

People who are accessing **food vouchers** for over the break will be contacted shortly for collection. Anyone who feels they would also benefit, please contact us in confidence before the end of the week.

I wanted to highlight some of the support that is available through our Family hubs – our website has a range of posters publicising the courses e.g. Baby massage; Home safety & first aid; Sleep workshop; Goodbye nappies – Hello pants! - to name but a

few. Find out more at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Community-Center/Thornaby-Family-Hub-1885827361511000/> or call 01642 528947

We have had some queries about dates in the school year – so these are the ones you need to know about until the end of this academic year:

Start of term 3 – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April.

Bank holiday Monday – May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Close for ½ term break – Friday May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Back to school – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June.

PDDay 5 – school will be closed Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

Close for the summer holidays – TUESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> July.

Here is some information from the local authority that we have been asked to share:

You could be eligible for a £500 payment if you're on a low income and cannot work because you've been told to self-isolate. Applications are open up to 14 days after your self-isolation has ended. For more information, visit [www.stockton.gov.uk/coronavirus/testandtracesupportscheme](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/coronavirus/testandtracesupportscheme)



There is a range of support available for businesses including a new Discretionary Business Grant Scheme, for more information, visit <https://www.stockton.gov.uk/coronavirus/businesssupport> and outbreak management support <https://www.stockton.gov.uk/our-economy/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-and-guidance-for-businesses/>



#### Community Support Hub

If you are told to shield or self-isolate you must stay in your home and not have visitors. You can get help from the 'COVID Community Support Team', led by Catalyst if you are vulnerable. Call 01642 733906 between 9am and 12 noon, Monday-Friday, or email [covidcommunitysupport@catalyststockton.org](mailto:covidcommunitysupport@catalyststockton.org)

I hope you have a good break.

Please keep safe.

Mrs Wood