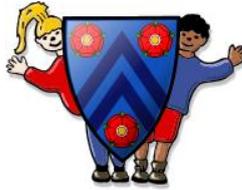


# MARSHFIELD CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning together, inspiring each other, achieving our best

Headteacher  
Jessica Bolt

Telephone: 01225 891246  
[admin@marshfieldprimary.org.uk](mailto:admin@marshfieldprimary.org.uk)  
[www.marshfieldprimary.org.uk](http://www.marshfieldprimary.org.uk)



Chippenham Road  
Marshfield  
Chippenham  
SN14 8NY

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Congratulations on the amazing job you have done in supporting your children, each other and the school during this lockdown period. You have been amazing!

It has not always been easy and I am sure there have been moments where we have all wondered if this will ever end. It will.

We are not 100% sure when this will be, but are hopeful that schools may begin to open on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March (agreed by the government to be the earliest return date). Schools find out at the same time as everyone else – I was watching Boris on the 4<sup>th</sup> January when we were informed that schools would be closing to all but key worker and vulnerable children, and will be watching on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February when he has agreed to share the 'roadmap' out. We will, of course, keep you up to date when we know more.



The beautiful spring flowers that the children have created have been wonderfully displayed by the talented Mr Looker-Jones and will welcome the children back to school – as a school and community we are very lucky to be connected in so many ways.

## New Lunch Menu

For those children who are attending school at the moment, the lunch menu has been updated for after half term. It includes a greater range of hot meal options, in addition to jacket potatoes and baguettes. Please log onto ParentPay to view the menu.



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As remote learning will be continuing after the break, may I remind parents and children of online etiquette that safeguards our children and ensures the best learning is possible:

- Children should be dressed appropriately and ready to learn for video calls;
- For younger children, parents may wish to be in the same room. For older pupils parents should check in on the learning;
- The teacher may share their screen and can control who is muted ;
- Children and teachers should not have backgrounds on their profile;
- The teacher will try to engage with as many pupils as possible but this may not be every child, every lesson;
- Chat facilities should only be used to communicate answers and ask questions for learning – private chat functions must not be used between pupils for school sessions;
- *The live lessons must **NOT** be recorded or photographed for any reason – you do not have the pupils', parents', teachers' or school's permission to do so. If you have taken screen shots, photographs or recordings these must be deleted.*

We are very much looking forward to a time when we can all be together in our real classrooms!



Mrs Lewis has shared a reading challenge with all children (available on Seesaw) which can begin now and will end on World Book Day (4<sup>th</sup> March). We are busy planning how we will celebrate this special day together despite the current restrictions!

During the break please follow the attached guidance for reporting positive Covid19 test results. Despite how difficult it has been, it is essential that we all continue to follow the government guidelines and restrictions. The most up to date version can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>

If any families are struggling financially, the Winter Grant scheme aims to help meet immediate needs and really support those families who are struggling to afford food and utility bills (heating, cooking, lighting) and water for household purposes (including drinking, washing, cooking, central heating, sewerage and sanitary purposes), or other related essentials.

The financial support could include more practical items such purchase of blankets or more expensive items such as boiler / oven repairs or perhaps even a replacement oven if the existing one is broken beyond safe use / repair.



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Parents and carers contact CAB on 03444 111 444 or the Council on 0800 953 7778, quoting Winter Grant funding.

The mini-larder available in the porch of St Mary's Church continues to be well-stocked so please do make use of that if you have need.

For emotional and mental health support please use the Mind You website to sign post for help. We return to school on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February and are happy to talk to anyone who needs us – we may not have the answers but we will do our very best to help!

<http://sites.southglos.gov.uk/mind-you/>

If you have any safeguarding concerns regarding the safety of children, the South Glos. Children's partnership website has guidance:

<http://sites.southglos.gov.uk/safeguarding/category/children/i-am-a-parentcarer/>

or call: 01454866000 to speak to the Access and Response Team; in an emergency call 999.



Please do remember to be kind to yourselves – none of us is getting everything right, nobody is perfect and, some days, it's ok to not be ok. Do what you can and know that trying your best is enough – you are good enough!

We wish you all a restful and safe break and look forward to seeing you again soon.

Very best wishes

Jessica Bolt and the Marshfield Team



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