



St Martin de Porres Primary School

Newsletter

24th April 2020

Dear parents/carers.

Welcome to this week's newsletter.

We have had some lovely news to share with you. Mrs Brooks and her husband are celebrating the safe arrival of baby Isaac. They are all doing well. We wish them lots of happiness and hope they don't have too many sleepless nights.

Learning Resources

Last week we had 1,598 stories shared and 226 skills shown across the school on Class Dojo, so well done to everyone.

The points on Class Dojo were suspended over Easter as we were having some problems. However, these will be active again from Monday 27th April and the Star of the Week will also be announced every Friday, so look out for that,

Please encourage your child to carry out at least one task daily. Teachers are providing lots of activities for the children to do, including links to the BBC Bitesize lessons. Try to give your child/children routine and plan a timetable for them. We know that it can be difficult if you have more than one child to access devices, so try to give each child a time slot.

Remember that BBC Bitesize is also available through your red button on the television.

The government have also launched new on-learn lessons through Oak Academy. This provides clearly structured lessons every day for every age group from Early Years up to Yr10.

If your child finds the suggested to easy or too hard, try using the year group above or below the one that they are in.

If you do not have access to the internet, then we can send home further home learning packs. Just phone the school between 8am and 4pm and we will post work out to you.

If we do not have an email address for you, but you do have one, please let us have it so that we can add it to our parentmail account. We can then send out information to you more easily.

If you are still struggling to access, then please email help@smdpluton.co.uk or phone the school office. We will try to answer all queries within 24 hours.

Contact Calls

Over the next few weeks, the class teachers will be phoning all of the children in their classes just to see how they are. We hope that the children will enjoy hearing from their

teachers. They are also happy to talk to you about any concerns that you may have and can signpost you to some other professionals for support.

#LutonSchoolRun

Today 29 staff from St Martin's will be taking part in this event. Across Luton, over 500 staff are taking part. Next week I will let you know how far we managed to run walk as a school.

Thank you so much to everyone who has already donated on-line. You can still donate at: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/emergencyhomeschoolfund>

With the current situation affecting so many families in our town Luton school staff are coming together to support local charity, The Level Trust, in a campaign to raise £12k to help children and families in Luton. <http://www.leveltrust.org>

Free School Meal Vouchers

We are aware that some people are having difficulty accessing the vouchers from Edenred. We have been sent this guidance today from the Department for education. In addition, please check your junk mail/spam folders as they codes may be going into these. If you continue to have difficulties, email Mrs Harris at admin@smdpluton.co.uk.

Guidance for issuing eCodes by post

Some schools have opted instead to post the eCodes (a 16-digit numeric code) to parents instead of the eGift cards.

It is important in this scenario to inform parents/carers of the correct instructions on how to redeem the eCodes as they cannot be directly spent in-store. Parents/carers must:

1. Go to <http://www.freeschoolmeals.co.uk> and enter their 16-digit eCode
2. Choose from the selection of supermarket eGift cards and enter the delivery email address at checkout
3. An email with the eGift card(s) will arrive within 24 hours
4. The email contains either a barcode, or a link to an online barcode that can be taken in-store to be spent

We also recommend sending a copy of the parent/carer FAQ document:

https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE_FreeSchoolMeals_ParentCarerFAQs.pdf

The school office will be open between 8am and 4pm each day or use help@smdpluton.co.uk. This email address is for enquiries and for parents who are critical care workers who need to contact us about childcare arrangements.

This morning I received the sad news from Bishop David that Bishop Leo McCartie passed away yesterday. He became Bishop of Northampton in 1990 and was very supportive of the schools in this area, visiting our school on several occasions. Please remember him and his family in your prayers.

Thank you for your on-going support.

N. J. Morgan.

N J Morgan
Head Teacher



*St. Alban
Catholic
Schools' Partnership*

