



PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mathews Park Avenue, London E15 4AE
Tel: 020 8534 4065 • Email: info@park.newham.sch.uk

6th May 2020

Re: School Updates

Dear Parents, Carers and Community of Park Primary,

I hope you are all well and looking after yourselves. I am writing with a number of updates.

Expectations of Home Learning

We have been very clear from the beginning that our expectation around the work being set by school is that we would encourage the children to opt into it, to provide some structure and something for the children to be doing, but that we do not want the work that is being given to cause unnecessary stress and difficulties at home. We stand by this however we have noticed that some children are choosing not to engage in any form of learning and they do not have any sense of routine at all. This can be detrimental to their wellbeing and will make a return to school (when the time comes) far more challenging. We'd therefore like to make the following recommendations:

1. **Must/Should/Could Timetable**

Your child's class teacher will share a suggested weekly timetable on Google Classroom/Tapestry. The sessions on this timetable will be colour coded:

Must - we think that it is reasonable to expect the children to complete these sessions

Should - we recommend these sessions

Could - we are sharing these sessions for those children who are looking for extra activities

2. **Engaging in Learning**

We recognise that many children are engaging in learning beyond that which is being set by us. We value those learning experiences as much as we do those set by us in school so if your child is engaging in other forms of learning, please let us know when we are calling home.

3. **Routine**

We understand that trying to keep to a set routine is challenging in these circumstances but we would urge you to maintain some form of normality for the children. Please ensure that your children are still going to bed at a reasonable time and are getting up at a reasonable time in the morning. It isn't healthy for the children to still be in bed at midday. Our Family Support Worker, Mrs Begum, has produced a top tips document about setting routines which we will share with you. If you are having difficulties with routines, please let us know and she can give you a call to talk through some ideas - you are certainly not alone!

4. **GoogleMeet**

Each week, for Year 1 to Year 6, there is a live GoogleMeet session where the children can speak to each other and see their friends. This session is planned for the children's wellbeing more than anything so please do encourage your child to join in where possible. Seeing familiar faces is such a valuable opportunity for the children at this time and it does wonders for the soul!

Entry to GoogleMeet Sessions (Years 1-6)

Please note that due to safeguarding reasons, teachers are only able to admit the children with their Park Google account to GoogleMeet sessions. If there is a request to join a session from another account, the teacher will refuse entry. We know that some children have experienced difficulties in joining their session for this reason so please check that your child is logged into their own account and not another family member's ahead of the meeting.

Calls Home

Now that the teachers are making contact with the children weekly in their GoogleMeet session, where children have been seen, they will be reducing their calls home to once a fortnight, instead of weekly. Should your child need to speak to their teacher in the interim week, please email info@park.newham.sch.uk to request an additional call.

Contacting Teachers

In the interest of staff wellbeing, and in line with our Communications Policy, staff will not be responding to any emails they receive directly to their inbox from parents and carers. If you would like to contact your child's class teacher, please email info@park.newham.sch.uk FAO: Teacher's Name, and your email will be passed on to them. If you would like to speak to a member of staff, please call the school office and they will arrange for them to give you a call. We understand that it may be frustrating not being able to make contact directly but in order to protect staff wellbeing we need to continue to adhere to policy.

School Reopening

You may have seen in the news much speculation around when schools will reopen to all children. At this time, we are yet to receive any form of directive from the Department for Education regarding this and so we continue to be closed to the majority of children until further notice. Please be assured that as, and when, we are provided with more information, we will share it with you as soon as we are able to do so.

Yours faithfully and respectfully,



Natasha Ttofalli

Please accept this as the main message here:

Your children **MUST** engage with some learning daily and this should be at a particular time. Please make sure they are present for any online lessons which are occurring and that they are mentally prepared for these lessons through an appropriate amount of sleep at the appropriate time. By doing this you will support your child to make an easier transition back to school when that time comes.

We are here for you:

- ❖ School phone number: 02085344065 (Mon - Fri 8:30 - 4:00) Please remember that it is a Bank Holiday on Friday 8th May so there will be nobody in school this Friday.
- ❖ Emergency phone number: 07584087660 (Mon - Fri 8:30 - 5:00)
- ❖ Park Primary email address: info@park.newham.sch.uk