

Dear parents,

The school is now closed. We will not open again until directed by the Government.

Thank you so much for your continued support over a difficult few days. The emails and messages that we have received from you have made life a little easier this week. The photos of children working at home have been great too.

We will be running our critical worker care provision out of the Junior site, starting on Monday. I will be contacting those of you who have requested this. If your circumstances change and you feel that you are eligible, please email me.

From Monday 23rd March, the office and bursar emails will not be manned regularly. Any communication to the school needs to come to me directly **head@cds.school**. We will not be taking any phone messages either.

In these uncertain times it is important to keep as positive as possible, try and find some good news in the world. To start this off, I would like to congratulate an ex-member of staff, Miss Hiscock (year 6 will remember her well), on the birth of twins- Jack and Aoife. Mum, Dad and twins are doing well.

In addition, this BBC News link is quite uplifting <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-51963446>



[Coronavirus: Venice's canals look clearer after lockdown](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-51963446)

From environmental improvements to acts of kindness, there are glimmers of light amid the crisis.

www.bbc.co.uk

Please continue to send in photographs of the children working at home and we shall put them on the website. Staff will also be putting photographs of themselves working at home.

I will continue to send out a newsletter just to keep in touch with you all, if you wish to send in items please email them to me (great activities you have done, books you are enjoying with the children etc).

I would like to finish by sending my heartfelt thanks to all our NHS staff. I can't imagine how tough things must be for you at the moment, please know that we are all very grateful for all that you are doing.

Mrs Price

Mrs Walker

Many of you will know Pat Walker as the Lunchtime supervisor on the Infant site, however, she has also been the school cleaner on the Infant site too. She has made the very sensible decision to reduce her working hours and stop cleaning at school. During lunch yesterday, we presented her with a bouquet of flowers, some garden centre and book vouchers. I am so grateful to Pat for her service to the school, she has put up with me and my many renovations on the Infant site and never moaned - well maybe a little bit about glitter!!! Thank you, Pat.,

Reading Books

Parents have been asking if they can come and change their child's reading book whilst we are closed. Currently that will not be possible, and we will not be sending extra books home. However, we are more than happy for you to swap books between yourselves- if you can work out a safe way of



Saturday 21st March 2020

abiding by the social distancing restrictions. Mrs Wilde is looking into some ideas for virtual reading and phonics too.

Year 6

We also recognise that some year 6 pupils and parents are viewing Friday 20th March as their last day at Cuddington and Dinton: we are not viewing it in this way. Mrs Bowman and I are discussing different ways we can mark their final Summer term at the school, and we will share these after the May Half term holiday.

Pupil Premium Pupils

I can report that all pupils on Pupil Premium will be receiving a voucher for Tesco's, to the value of the money received from the Government for free school meals. Initially we will be emailing you a voucher, totally £46 to cover four weeks, and then a fortnightly 'top up'. We will contact you early next week.

Primary School Tests

All testing for Primary age children has been cancelled. This means there are no:

- Phonics tests in year 1 and 2
- Year 2 SATs
- Year 4 Tables testing
- Year 6 SATs

Medicine Collection

When tidying up the school yesterday evening, I was aware that we still had medicine for children on the Junior site. I would like to send all medicines home next week. Please can you email me if your child has medicine in school and you (or a nominated person) wish to collect it. I appreciate if you are self-isolating this may be difficult, however Mrs Carr managed to keep at least 2 metres away when sorting out Infant PE kits for parents! If I don't hear from you, then the medicine will be disposed of.

Refunds

Mrs Carr and I will be looking at refunds next week. We will contact you once we have more information from the local authority.

Stars of the week

Infants

Little owls - Theo and Lucy R

Yr1 Drew and Archie

Yr2 Ned and Charlie

Juniors

Yr3 Annabel and Harry

Yr4 Charlie and Jessica

Yr 5 Lottie and Emilia

Yr 6 Finn W and Naomi

Sports Star - Bethany Taylor