

# GARSTANG ST THOMAS

## CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

### NEWSLETTER

29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

#### SCHOOL RETURN DATE

The prime minister has said that schools could begin to return from 8th March. We will e-mail as soon as dates and details have been confirmed.

#### HOME LEARNING QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you so much to all those who filled in the questionnaire – please see feedback on page 2 of this newsletter.

#### HOME LEARNING REMINDERS

Please let us know if you need any stationery or to change reading books. With a little notice, we can arrange to have items ready for collection, at a distance, outside school (could be collected as part of your daily exercise) or we can deliver if required. Please e-mail: [admin@garstang-st-thomas.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@garstang-st-thomas.lancs.sch.uk) or give Miss Whittaker a call in the school office on 01995 603454.

#### FRIDAY SPECIALS: FRIDAY 1:30PM ON GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Here is the plan for future Friday Specials:

TODAY: DONNY DISCO @ THE KITCHEN DISCOTHEQUE

Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Feb: ART ATTACK WITH MRS SO

Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Feb: GARSTANG'S GOT TALENT

#### MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

From 1<sup>st</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2021, we're taking part in Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme is 'Express Yourself'. There will be related activities during the week for all children.

Christian Value this half term: **COURAGE**

Wednesday Worship focus: **COURAGE**



Google Meet

#### REGULAR LIVE GOOGLE MEETS

The start of the day Google Meet is a key slot to find out what's happening in the day from each class teacher:

**Infants: 9am/ Juniors 9:30am**

#### WHOLE SCHOOL GOOGLE MEETS:

**Monday PE:** Infants 1:15pm Juniors 2pm

**Tuesday:** Wellbeing drop-in 12noon – 12:30pm with Mr Baker

**Wednesday Worship:** 10am

**Friday Special:** 1:30pm

**Friday Celebration:** 2:30pm

#### DIARY DATES

##### TERM DATES

**Thu 11<sup>th</sup> Feb:** BINGO night by Zoom

See below for more information

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Half term

**Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb:** Return to school

**Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Mar:** Last day of term

**Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Mar – Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Apr:** Easter break

**Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Apr:** Return to school

### STAR OF THE WEEK AWARDS

**Reception:** Charlotte Porter, Phoebe Tennant, Oscar Gould & Lara Mitchell

**Year 1:** Joseph Earp, Imogen Bell, Joel Dyer & Pol Forga Allday

**Year 2:** Evie Owens, Pippa Rowlandson, Annabelle Horner & Logan Robinson

**Year 3:** Olive Ormerod, Alfie Kippax, Henry Jurin & Thomas Baker

**Year 4:** Joshua Billington, Alfie Stephens, Holly Baker & Ewan Livingstone

**Year 5:** Maggie Hayhurst, Kukena Sindowe, Eliza Gradwell & Jack Sheilds

**Year 6:** Morgan Walton, Holly Cherrett, Alfie Clifton & William Yates

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## HOME LEARNING QUESTIONNAIRE FEEDBACK

Dear Parents/Carers,

### HOME LEARNING QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you for replying to the home learning questionnaire. Thank you also for the positive and supportive comments which have really encouraged the teaching team in school.

The feedback we have received was overwhelmingly positive but the consensus is that home schooling, in general, is a challenge. The one solution is to have all children back in school which unfortunately is out of our control.

You will know that we're working to provide the same learning and content to those at home as those who are in school. You may also know that the government have made it law about the amount of work schools set. However, we know there are so many challenges at home especially for our younger children and therefore if you need to prioritise, please prioritise English (plus reading) and maths.

We asked for general feedback and suggestions and I've shared all of these with the teaching team this morning. You may well see some tweaks. The feedback has shown that there is absolutely no pattern or common theme; what one family suggest they would like a little more of, there is another family who would like a little less of.

We are now thinking carefully about the transition back to school for all the home learners to ensure that they are really well supported on return and also over time.

Very best wishes,

Jim

Jim Blakely  
Headteacher

### COMPUTERS/LAPTOPS

We are now in the position to offer a device to those families who may benefit from a second device at home (if children are sharing). This is open to any of our families. Please e-mail: [lbaker@garstang-st-thomas.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:lbaker@garstang-st-thomas.lancs.sch.uk). There are a limited number of devices.

**GST PTFA PRESENTS**

**LOCKDOWN  
3.0**

**FAMILY  
BINGO**

**THURS  
11TH FEB 2021**

£5 per full book - 10 games

Chocolate prizes for line and house

Zoom link to be provided

Payment via ParentPay

# ENGLAND LOCKDOWN

# STAY AT HOME

**THE NEW VARIANT OF CORONAVIRUS IS SPREADING FAST.  
WE ALL NEED TO PLAY OUR PART TO STOP THE SPREAD.**

## ▶ LEAVING HOME

You must not leave, or be outside of your home or garden, except for a very limited set of exemptions e.g. to shop for basic necessities, exercise, go to work if you cannot do so from home, or to escape risk of harm.

## ▶ MEETING OTHERS

You cannot leave your home to meet socially with anyone, except with your household or support bubble (if eligible to form one). Stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household or support bubble.

## ▶ EXERCISE

You may exercise on your own, with your household or support bubble, or with one person from another household (when on your own). Stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household or support bubble.

## ▶ BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS

Hospitality closed aside from sales by takeaway (until 11pm), click-and-collect, drive-through or delivery. Alcohol cannot be purchased through takeaway or click-and-collect from hospitality venues.

## ▶ RETAIL

Essential shops can open. Non-essential retail must close and can only run click-and-collect and delivery.

## ▶ WORK AND BUSINESS

Everyone must work from home unless they are unable to do so.

## ▶ EDUCATION

Early years settings open. Primary and secondary schools and colleges move to remote provision except for vulnerable children and children of critical workers. Most university students to move to remote learning.

## ▶ LEISURE AND SPORTING FACILITIES

Closed, with limited exceptions.

## ▶ ACCOMMODATION

Closed, with limited exceptions.

## ▶ PERSONAL CARE

Closed.

## ▶ ENTERTAINMENT

Closed.

## ▶ OVERNIGHT STAYS

You must not stay overnight away from home. Limited exceptions apply e.g. to stay with your support bubble.

## ▶ WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

Funerals of up to 30 people permitted. Weddings up to 6 people permitted in exceptional circumstances. Wakes and other linked ceremonial events of up to 6 permitted.

## ▶ PLACES OF WORSHIP

Places of worship can remain open and communal worship is permitted, but you must not mix with those outside your household or support bubble.

## ▶ TRAVELLING

You must stay at home. If you do leave home for a very limited set of exemptions, you should stay local in the village, town, or part of the city where you live where possible. Do not travel abroad unless an exemption applies.

## ▶ CLINICALLY EXTREMELY VULNERABLE

Shielding reintroduced across England. You should not travel to work, school, college or university and should limit the time you spend outside the home. You should only go out for medical appointments, exercise or if it is essential.

## ▶ CARE HOME VISITS

Visits can take place with arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, or behind windows. Close-contact indoor visits are not allowed. No visits will be permitted in the event of an outbreak but end of life visits are permitted in all circumstances.





Government  
Counter Fraud  
Function

GOV.UK/coronavirus



Counter Fraud Authority

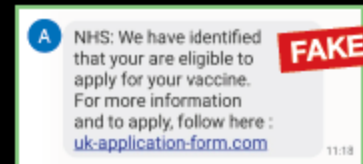
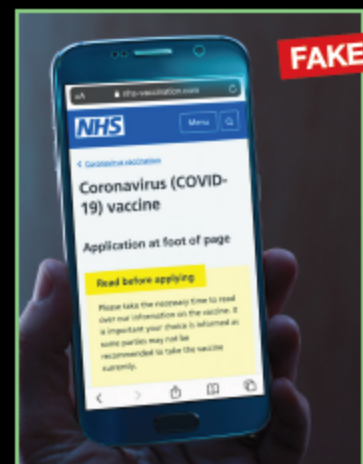
# BE ALERT TO VACCINE FRAUD

Criminals are using the COVID-19 vaccine as a way to target the public by tricking them to hand over cash or financial details. They are sending convincing-looking text messages letting people know they are eligible for the vaccine or phoning people directly pretending to be from the NHS, or local pharmacy.

**PEOPLE ARE WARNED TO BE ALERT TO THESE SCAMS**

The **NHS** will:

- ⊗ NEVER ask for payment - the vaccine is free
- ⊗ NEVER ask for your bank details
- ⊗ NEVER arrive unannounced at your home to administer the vaccine
- ⊗ NEVER ask you to prove your identity by sending copies of personal documents such as your passport



## FURTHER GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT



National Cyber  
Security Centre

If you receive a call you believe to be fraudulent, hang up. If you are suspicious about an email you have received, forward it to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk). Suspicious text messages should be forwarded to the number 7726 which is free of charge.



If you believe you have been the victim of fraud or identity theft, you should report this directly to Action Fraud either online; [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk) or via phone 0300 123 2040.

**CrimeStoppers.**

If you have any information relating to vaccine fraud you can stay 100% anonymous by contacting Crimestoppers COVID Fraud Hotline online; [covidfraudhotline.org](http://covidfraudhotline.org) or phone 0800 587 5030.