



Dear Families,



### Helping hands

#### WE ARE HERE TO HELP

I would like to give you a flavour of how we have been helping families so far during lockdown. We are issuing vouchers for families whose children are entitled to benefits related school meals- although Newham's food parcels are good quality we felt vouchers gave families more choice. We have delivered learning packs to our children with additional needs. Dylan has been active touring the area delivering loans of laptops and tablets and learning resources. Dana has dropped books and toys to children. Dana has secured supplies of devices and cash to support families with no recourse to public funds. We have funded clothing for some families. Monica has worked with staff to help get people set up with home learning- accessing dojo etc. Nicola and her team are running live sessions offering speech and language support and other group activities. Shama, Nicola and Dana are providing support with children's behaviour, mental health, routines etc that will help keep life at home calmer and happier- we may not have magic wands but can work through things with you. If we haven't reached you yet please just contact us or let your child's teacher or TA know through the weekly phone call. Thank you so much to families who have donated to our funds. The tech fund will be paused for now- there is a very long delay on orders so we will focus on wider needs going forward.

#### Home learning update:

Teachers have begun the weekly zoom calls. Elm and Oak will be on Monday 25<sup>th</sup>. Children have been quiet on the first one so Teachers are looking at ways to develop interaction through games or "show and tell" linked to the home learning- we hope this will also inspire children to engage more in the home learning follow up activities.

Year 1 and Year 2 are weaving in additional activities to the daily menu rather than sending a home learning sheet.

#### Maths learning

I know that we have had some questions about our approach to teaching maths with some parents asking about moving onto larger numbers etc. We ask you not to do this because we are following a research based approach known as Teaching for mastery. Becky, our highly trained and skilled maths specialist teacher has put together a video to explain why we appear to be more tortoise than hare. It can be accessed here: <https://youtu.be/SznGAMxlrTw>

I know you will find this very informative. Home learning is giving you the chance to "peek into the classroom" as one parent has put it...



#### Information from LB Newham

Need some support for yourself or your family during lockdown? Not sure where to start? Join us for our weekly workshops taking place every **Thursday, 4pm-5pm** on **Zoom** and we will inform you of the support that is available to you in Newham.

We want to make sure that every family in Newham knows about the amazing support on offer, especially during this difficult time. This includes support for wellbeing and mental health, finances, housing, befriending and much more. Click the link below to join our workshop!

[Join Zoom Meeting](https://zoom.us/j/95579486838) <https://zoom.us/j/95579486838> Meeting ID: 955 7948 6838

OR Join by phone 203 481 5240 Meeting ID: 955 7948 6838#

## Workshops

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| Supporting parents during the Coronavirus pandemic      | Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> January 2021, 4-5pm  |
| Supporting teenagers during the Coronavirus pandemic    | Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2021, 4-5pm  |
| Supporting children during the Coronavirus pandemic     | Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2021, 4-5pm |
| Taking care of yourself during the Coronavirus pandemic | Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2021, 4-5pm |

Thank you again for your support

Sarah & Staff