



# Greenfields Federation Newsletter



April 2020

## Message from Mrs Anderson

Welcome to this month's newsletter. I hope you remain safe and well and that you are adapting to this new way of life. I feel the current situation is an opportunity to take stock of what is important and appreciate all that we may have taken for granted including our health and social care services and frontline workers. Never have we owed so much to so few who tirelessly put their lives at risk to protect, care for and look after the vulnerable and those in need.

Thank you also to all our key workers whose roles are essential in keeping us fed and the infrastructure going.

In terms of school, the vast majority of our children continue to be home educated with home learning emailed or posted on our school websites. Our Northolmes' site has remained open throughout the traditional Easter holiday break for identified children and I am most thankful for the hard work of my staff and the support from you, our parents and carers.

I am quite sure, like us, you are very much looking forward to the day when the children can return to school with some normality. All the uncertainty can be very stressful and hard to manage.

As I have said previously, we are sailing uncharted waters without a script and without having any clarity as to what will happen next. A prime example of this is the ongoing debate about when schools will reopen. All I can say at this present time is that I know as much as you do but both the education minister and unions are clear that any decision as to when schools can be fully operational once more must be based on clear scientific evidence which says it is safe to do so for children and staff.

Although we all miss the children terribly and we would all dearly love school to be open and operating as 'normal' once more, rest assured that we will continue to be here and ready to serve, you, our school community. If you need to get in contact please do so by telephone 01403 261822 or email [office@northolmesjunior.school](mailto:office@northolmesjunior.school), [head@northolmesjunior.school](mailto:head@northolmesjunior.school) and we will do our very best to help.

Further information will follow later this week from Miss Woodland on advice and support with managing lockdown for children and their adults

In the meantime, please stay safe and well,

Best wishes,

Sharon Anderson

## Easter Competition

Thank you to everyone who submitted their Easter Art over the holidays – it was lovely to see all your creations. The winning entries are at the end of the newsletter along with some of our other entries. Well done to:

Northolmes Eggstravaganza	Bea in Curie
Easter Bonnet (Northolmes)	Jazmine in Edison
Easter Bonnet (Littlehaven)	Holly in Peacocks and Zara in Goldfinches
Easter Art (Northolmes)	Asher in Edison
Easter Art (Littlehaven)	Faye (Reception) and Sophie (Year 1)

## Online French lessons at Northolmes

During this unprecedented time of school closure, French Club will be continuing to operate for Northolmes students via Zoom video sessions for the first half of summer term, or until we are back at school. Children will continue to benefit from learning a range of French vocabulary through games, Powerpoint presentations, songs and interactive activities. A range of resources will also be made available so children can extend their learning from home.

This is a great opportunity for children to see their friends in a virtual classroom environment as well as providing some variety to their home learning and enabling them to learn or improve their language skills.

French Club is open to pupils from Year 3 -6 and the sessions will take place between 12.30 -1.15pm every Tuesday (beginning 21st April). There is the option to pay for the full half term (5 sessions at £25) or pay per session. Further details including how to book can be found here: [https://bit.ly/north\\_sum20](https://bit.ly/north_sum20)

If you have any questions, please contact Caroline Berry directly at [caroline@mondedespetits.co.uk](mailto:caroline@mondedespetits.co.uk) or on 07950 489686.



## ChatHealth Messaging Service

### Text your school nurse

During these unsettling times, as a parent of child aged between 5-19 years old you may be worried about your child's health and wellbeing and be unsure about how to get the help you need.

Our school nurses are still here to help - you can text them for confidential advice and support on a wide range of issues.

**Parent/carers of a child aged 5-19 can send a text to:**

**07480 635424**

We can help with all kinds of things like:

- Behaviour
- Continence
- Emotional health
- Self-harm
- Bullying
- Minor accidents and illnesses

Your ChatHealth messaging service is run by the Healthy Child Programme 5-19 School Nursing Service and is available from 0900 am to 4.30 pm Monday –Friday (excluding Bank Holidays).

We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate bounce-back to confirm we received your text. Texts will not be seen outside of normal working hours. If you need help before you hear back from us, contact your GP, NHS 111 or dial 999 if it is an emergency.

## Supporting families in challenging financial circumstances

We understand that the Covid-19 pandemic is having a dramatic effect on the lives of many families. If your family circumstances have changed, or you are in need of support – we can help you.

### Supermarket Vouchers:

The Government has developed a national scheme to provide supermarket vouchers for families of pupils eligible for benefits-related free school meals. Eligible families will be able to choose an eGift card to the value of £15 each week for every child eligible from one of the following supermarkets:

- Morrisons
- Tesco
- Sainsbury's
- Asda
- Waitrose
- M&S

The voucher scheme is administered by school. Eligible families will receive instructions on how to use this scheme to create an eGift card, which can be downloaded and used online or in shops by presenting a barcode. If you do not have access to the internet, we can print and post a gift card to you.

Families who are already receiving free school meals (benefits related, not to be confused with Universal Infant Free School Meals) do not need to do anything and should have already received their first vouchers. If you have not received your vouchers please contact the school office: Littlehaven [office@littlehaveninfant.school](mailto:office@littlehaveninfant.school) or Northholmes: [office@northholmesjunior.school](mailto:office@northholmesjunior.school) .

If you are not currently registered for free school meals (benefits related), then you should consider if you could be eligible. You can check your child's eligibility for free school meals and the supermarket voucher scheme at any time via the West Sussex website - <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>.

Your child may be able to get free school meals/supermarket vouchers if you get any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

### Other support:

If you are not eligible for the free school meals/supermarket voucher scheme but are experiencing financial hardship, we can support you in other ways. Please contact the school office or email Miss Woodland – [woodland@northholmesjunior.school](mailto:woodland@northholmesjunior.school) or [woodland@littlehaveninfant.school](mailto:woodland@littlehaveninfant.school) . Any help offered will be treated confidentially.

## Home Learning

Now that the Easter holidays are over, we will resume our home learning provision. We hope that the resources and ideas we provide support you. We know that it cannot replicate the learning that they would be doing in school but hope that it gives you and your child enough to keep some sort of routine going.

As a reminder, work can be found in the following ways:

Peacock/Kingfisher	Work will continue to be sent home via eSchools and Tapestry. Staff are loving seeing all your work being posted onto Tapestry.
Robins/Goldfinch/ Woodpecker	Work will continue to be sent home via eSchools.
Edison/Curie/Faraday	Work will continue to be accessed via the school website. There is now a link which will take you to a OneDrive folder where all the work will be saved. Work will also continue to be added to Purple Mash. Please keep emailing staff at <a href="mailto:lowerschool@northolmesjunior.school">lowerschool@northolmesjunior.school</a> – we love to see and hear about what you've been up to.
Brunel/Darwin/Galileo	Work will continue to be accessed via the school website. There is now a link which will take you to a OneDrive folder where all the work will be saved. Work will also continue to be added to Purple Mash. Please keep emailing staff at <a href="mailto:upperschool@northolmesjunior.school">upperschool@northolmesjunior.school</a> – we love to see and hear about what you've been up to.

## Keep in Touch

We'd love to hear what you are up to at home. Whether it is a special mention for someone who has undertaken some fantastic home learning or an imaginative idea for family time together please let us know. We'd love to read them and also share some of them in our future newsletters. If you have anything you'd like to share please email your child's teacher and they will forward them on to me.



PROTECT THE NHS

save lives



Bea – Curie Class  
Eggstravaganza Winner



Jazmine – Edison Class  
Northholmes Easter Bonnet  
Winner



Holly – Peacocks  
Littlehaven Easter Bonnet  
Winner



Sophie – Year 1  
Littlehaven Easter Art  
Joint Winner



Asher – Edison Class  
Northholmes Easter Art  
Winner



Faye – Reception  
Littlehaven Easter Art  
Joint Winner



Zara's Easter entries- Year 1 Goldfinch class Littlehaven Easter Art joint winner

