



Wednesday 22nd December 2021

NEVILL INFANT NEWS

Dear all,

As we approach the end of the year it is a perfect opportunity to say thank you for a lot of things. Thank you to the Nevill Road community for welcoming me in to help steer the school to being even more wonderful.

Thank you to the Friends of Nevill Road for all of the activities this term including the stalls, Santa dash and paying for the panto which the children have loved!

Thank you to all the parents and carers who trust us with educating and nurturing your children, your support and understanding in these difficult times is very much appreciated.

Thank you to the children, who have made each day that little bit more interesting, who have unknowingly said the funniest of things, who have brightened the day with a smile and who have risen to the high expectations we have of them.

Thank you to the school governors who have helped me shape the direction in which we are going and who offer a much needed level of challenge and support.

Lastly, thank you to **all** the staff here at school; they are a fantastic team who unerringly go the extra mile, who provide a sense of fun with the learning and who are wholly committed to making the school and the education journey the children experience a brilliant one.

I sincerely hope you have a magical Christmas break filled with fun, relaxation and laughter and I look forward to hearing just how early the children woke up on Christmas Morning.

I hope you join me in keeping everything crossed for a more peaceful 2022!

Mr Whitfield



SNOW PROCEDURES



As the weather is beginning to turn much colder we are at risk of snow. If the school is forced to shut due to overnight snow the decision to do so will be taken as soon as we can to maintain the health and safety of children, staff and parents. You will receive a School Spider message informing you of this.

If we experience heavy snow during the day making access to school site and driving conditions very difficult for staff we may have to close. Again, we will take the decision as soon as we can and a message will be sent out via School Spider to collect children.

A more detailed letter will be sent out next term.



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A reminder ... children return to school 6th January

Golden Letters

It has been an absolute pleasure this week to write special Golden Letters to some of our wonderful children. They have been nominated by their teachers for always doing the right things, for always trying their hardest and for always being the best that they can be. They are being sent through the post so keep your eyes peeled just in case!

Christmas Performances

A big thank you to everyone involved in the safe Christmas performances this year. Thank you to the children for working so hard to learn lines and songs, the teachers for pulling the production together, all the parents and carers for supporting the 'costume call' and especially to Miss Parvaz who made all the technological things possible.

Sending learning home

We have had a few parents ask for work to be sent home when a child is ill.

We will only send work home for periods of COVID-related **isolation** or for non-illness related **recovery** i.e. post-surgery; if your child is unwell, they need time to get better without the extra pressure of completing work– we will catch them up with missed learning when they return.

Cautionary Preparation re: Lockdown Situation

As you will be aware, the situation with Covid-19 and the variants does not seem to be easing and we are faced once again with a difficult time ahead.

As a precaution I have been planning with Miss Spencer just in case things take a turn for the worse. We have also made sure this week that the codes and passwords for online learning are sent home as a reminder so that if we face a 'home-learning' situation in January, we are well prepared. If that happens, we will also arrange for additional physical resources to be sent / collected for the children and issue a clear statement of what you can expect from us each day.



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Stockport Holiday Support Vouchers

Stockport Council are pleased to announce that families of school-age children who are eligible for income-based Free School Meals and those in early years with equivalent eligibility, will receive vouchers to the value of £30 per child to cover the Christmas holidays. The vouchers are to help with the cost of food and essential utilities and other essential living costs.

Families do not need to do anything to apply and will automatically receive a voucher for any child for who they have claimed income-based free school meals. Vouchers will only be sent to families who had a claim on or before 3 December 2021.

If you are eligible but have not received your voucher, be sure to check your spam/junk folders. If you still cannot find your voucher, visit www.stockport.gov.uk/free-school-meals/holiday-support-voucher for more information.

For families where the council holds an email address, will receive an electronic voucher via the Post Office. For those where the council does not hold an email address, will be sent an Aldi supermarket voucher in the post

Vouchers will be sent out on, or before 16 December and will be valid for 1 month.

Other support available:

Holiday Activities

This Christmas holiday, there will be free and fun holiday activities and food for school-age children who are in receipt of means tested free school meals. To find out more visit: <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/haf>. If you need help to find information or to sign up for clubs and activities, please email HAF@stockport.gov.uk.

Your Local Pantry scheme

The Your Local Pantry scheme by Stockport Homes helps people access affordable food from 5 locations across the borough. Memberships range from standard (£3.50 per week) to family (£6.50 per week). In return members can collect a pre-packaged food bag of 10 items (standard) or 20 items (family) and includes a mixture of non-perishable items alongside fresh fruit and vegetables, chilled and frozen items. Over Christmas, the Pantry are offering members bonus food items in addition to their usual shop including fruit, veg and Christmas meal packs. Brinnington, Mottram Street and Bridgehall Pantries will also be open on 30th Dec from 10am - 1pm for any pantry member to access. For more information and to sign up, visit www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk.

Stockport Council Support Fund

If you're a Stockport resident, you can apply to Support Funds for help such as a food bank referral; help to find items that you may need in your home (cooker, fridge, washing machine); gas and electricity top up for prepaid meters; help paying your Council Tax; payment of a shortfall in rent; or help to apply to a charity or trust fund. For more information and to apply for help visit: <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/financial-support-in-a-crisis>.

Advice and Support

Additional support and advice can be found at: <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/topic/money-advice-and-support-coronavirus>

Health Start Vouchers

Families who have a child under the age of 4 or are pregnant, you may also be eligible for further support through the NHS Healthy Start Scheme. More information can be found at www.healthystart.nhs.uk. You can also ask a midwife or health visitor for help or phone the Healthy Start helpline on 0345 607 6823.

Foodbanks

To request a food bank referral, contact Stockport Citizens Advice on 0808 278 7803.

Stockport Council Welfare Rights Team

A team of experienced specialist advisers can represent you at benefits appeals or if you have a problem with your benefits. For more information, visit: <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/help-with-benefit-appeals>. If you need any help completing the form, you can contact the Welfare Rights Team by email at welfare.rights@stockport.gov.uk or by calling 0161 217 6003.

If you need help getting online, contact the DigiKnow Helpline on 07537 127095.



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CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY VOUCHER SCHEME

If your children receive income-based Free School Meals, then you're eligible for holiday vouchers this Christmas to help with the cost of food and essential utilities and other essential living costs.

Each eligible child will receive a £30 voucher to help cover the cost of food, fuel and other winter essentials. Email vouchers can be redeemed at any Post Office location. Be sure to check your email for your voucher. Don't forget to check your spam, folders too!

If you do not have an email address registered with the council, you'll receive an Aldi voucher in the post instead.



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Looking for advice, support or emergency assistance?
There are services in Stockport to help you

Financial Support, Loans and Savings

Specialist Debt Advice

For help with multiple debts, insolvency options or an emergency issue visit:

www.stockport.gov.uk/debt-advice

Citizens Advice Stockport

Adviceline: **0808 278 7803** or out of hours emergency helpline: **0161 850 5053** (6-9pm everyday); Online at www.casort.org

Stockport Credit Union

Apply online for a 24/48 hour turnaround.

www.stockportcu.com

Urgent Financial Support

Universal Credit Helpline

0800 328 5644 if something is wrong with your benefits payment.

Stockport Council Support Funds

Visit <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/financial-support-in-a-crisis> for emergency help with food, whitegoods, school uniforms, rent and fuel bills.

Help with Council Tax and Benefits

Visit <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/topic/benefits>

Housing Support

Stockport Homes Housing Options

Support with rent, mortgages, rough sleeping, and homeless emergencies. Call **0161 217 6016** or visit stockporthomes.org/contact

Stockport Homes Housing Support Service

Advice and support for vulnerable people

Tel: **0161 474 3773**; e-mail:

housingsupport.team@stockporthomes.org

The Wellspring

Resource centre for homeless and disadvantaged people. Online at: www.thewellspring.co.uk

Contact by phone: **0161 477 6344** or email:

info@thewellspring.co.uk

The Prevention Alliance

Advice and support for vulnerable people

0161 474 1042 or email to

info@stockporttpa.co.uk

Help with Food

Stockport Foodbank

07483 115349 for a direct referral or email to foodbank@stockportfoodbank.org.uk

Locations: Bredbury, Cheadle, Cheadle Heath, Hazel Grove, Heaton Norris, Offerton and Reddish

Chelwood Foodbank

0161 883 1792 Monday – Friday, 10am – 4pm or email to info@chelwoodfoodbankplus.org

Locations: Cheadle Hulme, Brinnington, Edgeley

Foundations Your Local Pantry

Community food stores at Bridgehall, Brinnington, Lanc Hill, Mottram Street and Woodley, helping people to access affordable food. Family memberships now available. Call **0161 474 4760** or sign up at your-local-pantry.force.com/s/member-sign-up

Alternative Foodbanks (Direct Access Only)

Small-scale foodbanks for those living in the local community. **Marple Foodbank** (All Saints, Queen St, Marple): Sat 10:00 – noon; **Gatley Foodbank** (Bethany Church, Church Road, Gatley): Mon/Wed 14:00 – 15:00; Sat 9:30-noon

Career Advice

Stockport Council Jobs Club

For help with CVs, job searching, job applications, interview prep and other advice, make an appointment by calling: **0161 474 3873** or **0161 474 5801** or email to adminsolic@stockport.gov.uk

Stockport Jobs Match

Job listings, training and career advice online at: stockport-jobsmatch.co.uk

Stockport Homes Employment Support

Job searching, CV writing, interview prep, and careers advice online at:

www.stockporthomes.org/employment-support

Contact by calling **0161 474 3773**

or email to:

employmentsupport@stockporthomes.org

Stockport Homes Skills for Life + Training

Employment, well-being and community themed training sessions for Stockport residents online at:

www.stockporthomes.org/skills-for-life-plus

Contact by calling **0161 474 2862** or email to customer.training@stockporthomes.org

