



Monday 18th May 2020



To our very dear Westwood Family

We all hope you are all very well and remaining positive!

We wanted to start by saying thank you again to you all for your well wishes, support and positivity during our current situation and school closure. Team Westwood have continued to be heartened by your warmth, connection and spirit these last few weeks, especially given the time we have been away from school. Your happiness and wellbeing are important to us, as ours is to you. Thank you all so much!

Half Term

This week would've been the last week before the half term. I would like to thank all of my Team Westwood for their hard work, dedication and support! I really do have the best team! My Team have been working incredibly hard to ensure you are being supported and I know that you have appreciated this greatly! So to support everyone's wellbeing within in our Westwood Family, we are asking that you and your children have a half term break from home learning. You need to all recharge and relax as much as you can! From Friday 22nd May @ 3pm until Monday 1st June, all of our Team Westwood staff will be taking a break too. This will mean the teachers will be taking the next week to recover and recharge ready for the final half term ahead. They will not be accessing emails nor other learning platforms for correspondence between these dates. However, you can still email the office and I will help support you. You know we are here if you need us!

Whole School Communication is important – Please open your emails.

We are hoping that we will see you very soon. Since our closure On March 20th, we have been in constant communication with you via email, and we hope that you are receiving your emails and messages from your class teachers. **Please open all emails from school**; this is so important as changes on our current situation will happen and this is our main way to communicate these changes to all of our Westwood family. If you have missed any whole school communications, you will find these here <http://www.westwoodprimary.co.uk/news/march-and-april-updates-from-march-20th-2020/52103>

As you will know Westwood, as all schools in Wales, remains closed. We have had a statement and a link from Welsh Government we wish to share with you.

On Friday 15th May, a Ministerial statement issued that no decision has been made to reopen schools from the 1st June after recent speculation and also which reiterates Welsh Government's approach to any future decision making around this important matter. Please click the link below:

https://twitter.com/wgmin_education/status/1261341997073383424

The document that supports the minister's statement can be found here:

https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-05/decision-framework-next-phase-education-childcare_o.pdf

There is a lot of talk in the media about schools, even more now that there are changes in England. Please take care when you see, hear and read information in the media about schools. Most of it applies to the current situation in England and not Wales. Please be reassured, when we have official information from our Welsh Government, you will get this too! That is why opening up emails from us will keep you honestly informed with the official news going forward. Thank you for your support and patience.

Again, I just want to reiterate for you to pick up and read all of your emails from Westwood C.P. Email is our main way to connect with you and communicate information to you. I have had many chats again this week with families who have changed details, phone numbers etc. If you do not open your emails, we become worried about you! If you are aware that you are not receiving emails or you know one of our Westwood Family is relying on other communication means, please let us know by emailing the office on wwmail@hwbcymru.net and ensure we have the correct details for you to stay connected. Thanks.

Please tell your children just how proud we all of them! Their happiness and wellbeing are paramount. We cannot stress this enough. Learning and engagement is happening in so many ways and we want you to be supported in your efforts. Remember do what works for you and your family. Be kind to yourselves!

Also, we have had a couple of requests for exercise books / workbooks. If you would like to request workbooks for your child to record their work, please email the office this week with your child's name and class asap. Thanks 😊

In this newsletter, I also wanted to make you aware of a few notices and information.

Nursery Reminder

If you have applied and not received your email of notification of a place, contact admissions at Flintshire County Council. Also if you wish for your child to join us at our Nursery for September and you haven't applied, you can still apply on <https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Admissions.aspx>

Free School Meals

If you are receiving Free School Meals, you should have had a letter from Flintshire County Council informing you that they are changing from direct deliveries to direct payments. If you haven't received this letter, get in touch with Flintshire County Council on their website or call **01352 704848**.

If you do not receive Free School Meals but think you are entitled, follow the link [https://secure.flintshire.gov.uk/Benefits/Viewer-VicForms.asp?user=anon&Form=Flintshire%20Free%20School%20Meals%20\(1.0\).wdf](https://secure.flintshire.gov.uk/Benefits/Viewer-VicForms.asp?user=anon&Form=Flintshire%20Free%20School%20Meals%20(1.0).wdf)

Keeping our school united and connected is so important – Our Westwood Family is Important!

Media Platforms

We have been delighted with the uptake on the new Seesaw personal codes and lovely to see what you have been doing at home. The codes were emailed on Monday 27th April. If you have not seen this, please go back and check your email. Join in on Seesaw; your teacher's will be happy to Seesaw you and it is a new way for your child and classmates to connect via your teacher!

Another way I have been connecting with you is on social media though our Twitter and Instagram platform - I know I cannot see you, but I know that lots of you see and hear me! I have had lots of fabulous pictures and Westwood's followers on Instagram are increasing. I do a weekly Vlog (video log) and give shout outs to you too! Go on Instagram @WW_Buckley or I post these on our website too! Just click on <http://www.westwoodprimary.co.uk/blogs>. And catch up with the latest happenings.

V.E. Day

Last week you all received your invitation for the V.E. Celebration on Bank Holiday Friday! We wanted you to join in and enjoy this day with your families. Of course, our wonderful Westwood family didn't disappoint – a fabulous response on our Instagram Page and Twitter Page, with many uploads of the events from your day! We even had Leader coverage with Bertie the Buckley Banner made by the Staff and Children of Westwood. <https://twitter.com/leaderlive/status/1259498433787777025>. Go over to the website to see more and keep those images coming <http://www.westwoodprimary.co.uk/work/ve-day-celebrations/58260>.

Children's Loo Roll Challenge

On Instagram and on my last newsletter, I have challenged the children to do a loo roll challenge. I have had a few but I would like more children to join in. Email a short clip to wwmail@hwbcymru.net of you doing the loo roll challenge! Look at the staff video on https://twitter.com/WW_Buckley/status/1246778719802359810 if you are not sure what this is.

Someone throws a loo roll from the right, and you catch it. Then you throw it to the left. **My deadline is May 25th** so keep the videos coming!!

Family Quiz

I also hope you have been enjoying the Family Quiz that Mr Powell has been organising for you on Friday. Don't forget to check you emails around 4.45pm to 5pm for a special code to join in! Lots of fun.

As you know we do not know when we will all be back together but staying united, connected and close is important- Family is important! Our Westwood Family is important!

We all miss you so very, very much - we are really counting the days till we are all back at Westwood. But until then: Stay Strong! Stay Positive! Stay Happy! Stay Safe!



From Mrs Williams & all of Team Westwood

