



Our value for March is Community

During these times we know that we need to look out for each other and be kind to one another. We are really enjoying being back in our school community and this week we have been focussing on being a good friend and developing the skills that we need when we are looking out for one another.



★ Online Reading Scheme ★

We are excited to launch our Rising Stars online reading. This goes alongside our books that we send home. You should have now received information about how to log onto your child's online reading page. Your child's class teacher will allocate books to them which you can access online.

This powerful combination of exciting fiction, non-fiction, poetry and plays will help develop the skills needed to learn to read and love reading. Rising stars has over 200 fresh, new reading books that offer a fantastic variety and choice at every level that children will love.

Happy reading!



Coughs and Colds

We are pleased that we have had high rates of attendance since the reopening of schools on 8th March. As always happens at this time of year, some children have runny noses, sniffles or mild colds. It is OK for children to be in school with these symptoms.



However, if your child is coughing persistently or has a high temperature, it could be a sign of coronavirus and they should be tested as a precaution. All members of the family should isolate until the results are known.



Please discuss with your child's class teacher or call the school office if you are unsure.



School Uniform Summer Term



Following discussions with parents/carers especially in Year 4 & Year 8 we have made the decision to continue with our current decision to suspend the need for pupils to wear school uniform for the summer term at both Catshill schools. Some parents have asked if they can send children in with uniform and that is totally acceptable.

Can we make it clear that the clothing should be appropriate and should not include crop tops or hats/caps (unless we have some sunny weather). Footwear must not include open toed sandals or shoes with heels for obvious Health & Safety Reasons. We will be returning to uniform expectations for September 2021.

We hope that before the end of the summer term we can organise a uniform swap shop in both schools to help families prepare for September. We will update you about this when plans are in place.

At Catshill First School and Nursery it is intended that the children will continue to have active sessions every day.

Middle school PE clothing should be worn on the two occasions in the week when they have PE/Games as this is necessary to participate safely in such activities.



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Email and Epraise Messages

In support of staff wellbeing, the Catshill schools have a policy that emails and Epraise messages will be responded to within 48 hours if deemed appropriate. Staff are not expected to reply to messages between 6pm and 8am, over the weekend or during holiday periods.

epraise

We welcome the increased opportunities to contact staff but request that, if you need to contact your child's class teacher, please be mindful of their personal time and avoid sending messages at unsociable times or use scheduled send where possible.

epraise

Easter Raffle

2021

The Amazing Easter Raffle is here!

The School Council is holding their annual raffle and the tickets are available now!

Tickets cost 50p each

There are at least 40 prizes to be won.

Including bunnies, chicks, crafts and chocolate eggs!

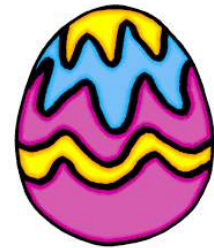
The winners will be announced on Tuesday 30th March

Please buy tickets online [here](#)

 GOOD LUCK!! 



With a special thanks to Julie-Ann Cooper designs for her donations to the raffle. ❤️❤️❤️



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❄️ WINTER FUEL VOUCHERS ❄️

Worcestershire Warmer Winter Fuel Support scheme for prepayment meter fuel vouchers are still available, the closing date for applications is by 31st March 2021

You can apply for these [here!](#)

📖 Free Family Learning Courses 📖

Family Learning Courses are now ready for families to book on for **FREE** for April – July 2021.

All available courses can be found [HERE!](#)



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👏 CAR PARK 👏

Please can we remind parents/Carers and children to keep off the car park at the front of school, especially at drop off and pick up times as there is increased traffic.

Thank you for your continued support



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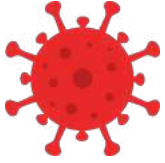
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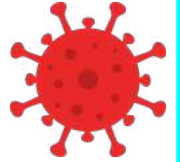


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Covid Reminders

If your child has had a covid test, please inform us as we need to report this on our daily information return to the DfE.
We also need to report any positive cases so please let us know the results when they come.



Lockdown Restrictions

Please be aware that there are children and families within our community who are currently positive with coronavirus.

Please do continue to follow the rules and do not put others at risk by allowing sleepovers, meetups and playdates. The virus is so easy to pick up and pass on; many people do not realise they have it.

If the child is then coming into school, they are putting lots of other families and our school staff at risk.

We know that allowances are in place for childcare/support and this message is aimed at those who are not complying with the rules that are in place to reduce the spread of coronavirus.

If you know that someone is breaking the rules, please use the non-emergency police line on 101 to keep our community safe and reduce the risk of us becoming ill from this awful virus.

E-safety Reminder

We will keep this reminder about e-safety on our newsletter as we know that the use of internet and technology has increased. Please continue to be mindful of the dangers of being on-line as well as the advantages. Please see our school website for further details [eSafety](#) or use the support on the Think You Know website [Thinkuknow - home](#).



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census2021

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Census 2021

Census Day is this Sunday 21 March. The census helps to plan and fund public services in your area, including your school, transport and the NHS. The information provided will help to make sure that services continue to meet the needs of our changing society.

If you haven't already done so please start your census online [here](#)



Raring To Go!



THE GO-TO GUIDE FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD
[Here](#) is a [link](#) to the Spring magazine - it's full of fab ideas of what to do and where to go!



Things to remember	Term dates
<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Please return any reading books that are still at home ✓★ W/C 22nd March is week 2 for our dinner menu ✓★ Please send dinner money to school on a Monday ✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ End of term: Wednesday 31 March 2021★ Start of new term: Monday 19th April 2021 <p><i>Holidays will not be authorised during term time.</i></p>



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