Hi Everyone

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE – 25.03.2020

I hope you are all well and keeping yourselves safe by following government orders on social distancing and staying at home except for your daily exercise, essential shop or to help the vulnerable. Thank you all for encouraging your children to engage with their teachers through Tapestry and Seesaw and supporting their learning. If your child has not engaged, we will be making a phone call tomorrow or Friday to check that all is fine and offer support if needed, either technical or otherwise.

At present, both schools are closed as our children whose parents are keyworkers have another member of their household to look after their children whilst they are at work. I know this must be difficult times, so I would like to thank you for your support in keeping your children safe at home. We do still have a duty of care for all of our children and if any parents who are keyworkers cannot get childcare, please email me on head@germoe.cornwall.sch.uk and we will ensure that provision is made at one school, at one time on a staff rota system. Children may only attend school if it is deemed essential as there is no other means of safe care within the household and with confirmation from myself. Please email me if you have any questions regarding this.

Free School Meals

The government have promised a national voucher system for parents to access if their child is eligible for free school meals (not including universal free school meals). No further details have been given to us regarding this as yet so we have decided to take our own action. This week we offered packed lunches for collection from school and from next week we will be sending vouchers to families. We will send them out on Monday and each child will receive a voucher for **£25 for the following 2 weeks worth of meals** (£12.50 a week). We will continue to send them out every other Monday until the national voucher system is agreed and up and running. Vouchers can be redeemed at Tesco for food for your children. I am not yet sure whether the vouchers will be sent via post or email, that will depend on which form they arrive to us in. I will let you know as soon as I know. If your child is eligible please email me with the subject, “**My child (name) is eligible for free school meals**.” We do have a list of our own but I want to be sure I have the correct email for you. If parents are separated then only the parent who is main carer (or where the child spends most time) needs to email to ensure the vouchers go to the correct place.

If you are unsure whether your child is eligible for free school meals, you can check on the government website on [www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals](http://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals). I am not sure how long it will take to process a new application at the moment but it is worth a try.

If you have any questions about any of the above then please do get in touch with me no matter how trivial it may sound. If you are having any problems with home learning then our staff are there to support you and can be contacted via their email addresses. These can be found under the home learning tab on our websites in your child’s class section: [www.boskenwyn.cornwall.sch.uk](http://www.boskenwyn.cornwall.sch.uk) and [www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk](http://www.germoe.cornwall.sch.uk). Staff will be uploading next term’s learning webs towards the end of the Easter period, please keep your eye out for them.

I’ll continue to update you as and when I get any new information. Until then, stay safe, stay at home where possible and most importantly take care of yourselves and our little superstars who we are all missing so much.

Paula Blackburn