

## Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents

We were overjoyed to hear all the children will be returning to school on Monday 8th March. The country is not yet out of lockdown so we will still be operating in bubbles with all of our safety procedures in place. We will continue to do everything to make staff and children safe in terms of ventilating spaces, washing hands, keeping bubbles tight etc.

Children can arrive at school between 8.40am and 8.55am (YR, Y1 and siblings through the back gate and Y2 - 6 through the front gate). Children in KS2 will need a packed lunch unless they are entitled to free school meals and all children will need a coat and a water bottle. Uniform must be worn. YR - 4 will finish at 3.00pm, Y5 at 3.10pm and Y6 at 3.15pm as previously.

### Uniform

We are sure we will notice how much children have grown when we see them again. If you are suddenly in need of some uniform we are now selling second hand items on Scopay ([www.scopay.com](http://www.scopay.com) or via their app). These are priced at just 50p each and will be sent home with your child within a day or two (if you require them for the start of term you are welcome to collect from the office next week). Please note we do our best to ensure that uniform is in good condition before re-selling but they are all second hand. Some items are already for sale and other items will be added over the course of the next week.

As with all uniform and items brought into school please ensure everything is named so we can reunite lost property with the owner.

### Clubs

We will be running after school sports clubs for Years 2-6 once the children return. Spaces will be offered first to those who signed up before lockdown so please check your emails for confirmation of a space.

### Parent Consultations

Our parent consultation evenings are on Monday 15th March and Wednesday 17th March (except RLEB – see below). These will be virtual meetings as in October and will start at 3.30pm. We will have been back in school for a week by then and these consultations can be used to a) discuss the autumn assessments, b) talk about the home learning and c) discuss how your child has settled back into school.

If you have had a lot of communication with your child's teacher during lockdown and feel there is nothing extra to discuss then please don't feel that it is compulsory to sign up. Initially, we will release times from 3.30pm until 5.00pm on both days. Then if there is a high demand for appointments, we will release the later times. Appointments can be booked via your child's online account at [www.scopay.com](http://www.scopay.com). Bookings will close on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March.

#### **RLEB Parent Consultations**

Unfortunately, Mrs Burton is unable to hold her parent consultations on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> and will instead be available on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. For those parents who have already booked an appointment this has been rebooked for you at the same time. We hope this is convenient but if not you are able to cancel and rebook via your child's online account. Bookings for this date will close on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March.

#### **Covid19 Walk in tests**

People without Covid19 symptoms who live and work in Essex are now being offered walk-in appointments for a rapid test at their local test centre. Tests had initially been available by booking an appointment in advance. The new option brings more flexibility, especially for those who are unable to work from home and want to get tested for peace of mind. Around a third of people with Covid19 have no symptoms and could be spreading the virus unknowingly. Although case numbers are declining, there is still a worrying number of people with Covid19 in Essex. Walk-in or book an appointment via the [Essex County Council website](http://Essex County Council website) or by calling 0333 772 6144. Anyone with symptoms should book a test via [www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](http://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test).

Yours sincerely  
Clare Griffiths