

It's hard to believe that we're still only in the second week of what feels like the longest term yet. Some days I feel as though I am doing a completely different job to the one I was this time last year! As teachers we have to step out of our comfort zone sometimes and put ourselves in the position of the children – as I discovered when I uploaded my first assemblies to Google and then on Tuesday one of the children presented me with a Spanish word search! It made me reflect on how much the children take in their stride when we present them with new ways of working and new content. They have demonstrated how adaptable they all are and we continue to be so impressed with their conduct both in school and remotely.

We now have 113 children in school and over 300 learning from home. I've been amazed with how quickly the whole staff team have responded and adapted yet again. I don't think there are many jobs where you are expected overnight to switch to an entirely different way of working, with limited technology, training and time and still have the same expectations placed upon you in terms of performance.

We are very grateful for all the messages of support you have been sending and these are being shared with the whole staff team on the board in the staffroom.

Thanks must also go to all of you working from home and out in the community as key workers, we know that it isn't easy to support children to complete school work whilst trying to manage your own workload and lives. Your wellbeing and that of the children remains the priority so please just do the best that you can and if it means switching off for a while and going for a walk, or playing a game then do it. It doesn't help that the weather has been so grey and miserable lately and restrictions mean we are limited as to where we can all go outside. I was thinking back to the sports day that we had at the Spectrum a couple of years ago and hold onto the thought that eventually we will be able to come together again as a whole school community in the sunshine. Roll on Spring!

The DfE have informed us that primary schools will be receiving some home testing kits for STAFF at the end of this month which is really positive news. Once I have further information on the details of this I will let you know the implications moving forward.

As ever, if you are struggling with technology, learning or have any concerns about your child, we are still here to help you even if your child is not in the building. All the classes have dedicated year group emails now and other key staff can also be contacted. Here is the link to the [communication guidelines](#) on our website under the policies section if you're wondering where to start.

We are including notices about clubs in this newsletter but please note that this is for information and we do not endorse any particular providers.

*Jo White, Headteacher*

## **Parking**

If you have to use your car at pick up or drop off, I would still urge you to park in Sutherland Memorial Park and not in Burpham Lane or Churchfields. This week we received a number complaints from local residents about inconsiderate parking, including a photo of a car that was partially blocking the entrance to Churchfields and caused problems for more than one resident.

## **Home School Link Worker**

There's some really useful information available through the Guildford Family Centre Facebook page, with links to other services, aimed specifically at supporting families during this time. Have a look below and see what they are offering:

[www.facebook.com/113565243397010/posts/421008235986041/?d=n](https://www.facebook.com/113565243397010/posts/421008235986041/?d=n)

I also have pleasure in sending you the link to the Jan/Feb issue of the magazine "Families".

Either of these links will work:

[https://issuu.com/familiesonline/docs/families\\_surrey\\_west\\_jan\\_feb\\_2021?fr=sN2MyZDI2NzAzMjE](https://issuu.com/familiesonline/docs/families_surrey_west_jan_feb_2021?fr=sN2MyZDI2NzAzMjE)

<http://bit.ly/FamiliesSWJanFeb21>

This issue includes activities families can do at home, a huge range of online children's classes, resources to support a family's mental health and lots more.

## Research Project – Online Training to Support Mums

My name is Hollie, I am a Trainee Clinical Psychologist at the University of Surrey, and for my final year research project I am looking for **Mums of 3-6 year olds** to take part in a 4-week online intervention. The intervention has been designed to help Mums understand more about '**Mum-guilt**' and self-criticism and **learn ways to manage this**- maybe more important than ever as we begin another lockdown and potentially face more home-schooling!

You will be asked to complete some questionnaires and some daily/weekly tasks, but they should only take **about an hour a week in total**. In return for your time, I hope that the intervention can help you learn more about self-compassion and reduce your levels of self-criticism, which can **improve wellbeing**- also more important than ever!

**Please also feel free to share with friends and family who may be interested.**

**Please follow this link for more information and to take part:** [https://surreyfaqs.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_50Fiz3oNOnj1FVX](https://surreyfaqs.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_50Fiz3oNOnj1FVX)

## From the Office

### Holiday Clubs

We have received information that **Tech Holiday Camps** are running **15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> February** and **29<sup>th</sup> March – 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021** at St Joseph's Primary School, GU2

Please see their information below:

"We understand the difficulty providing children with a **fun and education environment** at this current time. As an **Ofsted registered** provider, we will be providing **enriching childcare** enabling parents to return to work or have a well-deserved rest from home-schooling. We have **5 days of exciting activities** to feed the mind of your inquisitive genius following themes:

- **Bot Builders and Coders** – Curious coders and persistent programmers' favourite
- **Ingenious Inventors** – Implement circuitry to create practical solutions
- **Skilful Scientists** – Booms, bangs, pops and whizzes
- **Expert Engineers** – Fixing problems with clever creation
- **Media Madness** – Visionary movie editing and imaginative music producing

**Safety** is our **number one priority** and has been when we relaunched in summer 2020 when the pandemic first hit. Since then, we have managed to complete **3 successful holiday seasons** with **overwhelming feedback** and **meticulous safety procedures**. To see our full summer coronavirus safety video please [click here](#). We provide parents with a **risk-free money back guarantee** if we are unable to run or your child is unable to attend.



**Risk-Free Booking** – In the unlikely event that we have to cancel the camp due to government restrictions then you will receive a full refund or the option to swap to another camp. With the **world becoming more digital**, this is the **perfect camp to develop STEM skills and keep your child ahead**. Our camps are for **ages 5-11** (years 1- 6) only. **Spaces are limited** and running at reduced numbers. For more information, **please see attached flyer** or to **enrol now** simply visit:

<https://nextthing.shortcm.li/AS2KPh>



## Online Clubs

Following on from the roaring success of our **online lessons** that **Next Thing Education Clubs** offered in the first lockdown, we have now launched **new live teacher-led lessons** following the **computing national curriculum** and are inviting **all KS2 pupils of your school** this lockdown to **help with their home-learning**.

Simply **follow the link** [www.stem-school.co.uk](http://www.stem-school.co.uk), **select a time** that best suits your child's' home learning schedule and **enrol your child for a week or more** up until half-term. If you haven't experienced our sessions we are offering a **FREE starter lesson** to see what its all about.

Our **online courses** are the perfect way for pupils to **continue their learning** from the comfort of home whilst maintaining the collaborative school classroom spirit in a **safe** virtual environment. To find out how we are keeping your child safe online [click here](#). Let's keep students advancing their learning, interacting and building their computing skills in this new digital world!

Our online lessons are available for all skill levels

- Live, motivating instructors
- Limited class sizes of up-to 10
- Key stage 2 national curriculum
- Compatible on all web enabled computers and tablet devices

We would like to give this opportunity to parents before we advertise on social media. Please bare in mind that our sessions are typically filled the same day as release, so please **book now to avoid disappointment**.

The Stem-School Team!

James Sandrinson  
**Next Thing Education Clubs Ltd.**  
G5 Audley House, Northbridge Road,  
Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, HP4 1EH  
w: [www.stem-school.co.uk](http://www.stem-school.co.uk)  
e: [info@nextthing.education](mailto:info@nextthing.education)  
t: 01442873150