



# Thoresby News

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

In the coming weeks we will be staying in regular touch with all members of our community that are unable to attend the site via twitter and our website. We will continue our weekly newsletter and other updates.

We have also set up a 'Thoresby Primary School - HCAT' Facebook page in addition to The Friends of Thoresby who have an account. Sally Fairfax has also kindly set up a community Facebook page and we will forward you further details.

We have been inundated with messages of support and offers of help from you all. We thank you all so much, this has been a challenging week for everyone and our priority has been to remain calm and ensure the children have had as little disruption as possible.

We have many joint home/ school activities planned for everyone as a way of keeping our community together. Next week we are asking as many children as possible to make 'pom poms' to send into school so we can display them around our site and remind everyone we are all here for each other. Equipment will be made available to pick up from the school grounds with full instructions on our twitter page!

We will still be continuing our Egg competition – entries can be accepted into school and for those self-isolating by photo on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March. Prizes will be available on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020. Watch our twitter page for more details.

We will send further details around lunches next week and a suggested daily timetable for children at home that aligns with some of our school activities.

Details and clarification about the closure are detailed overleaf.

Please keep yourselves and your families as safe as possible and follow the government guidance.

Many thanks

Melissa Milner

Executive Headteacher

## Daily Move It

We aim to keep routines as normal as possible for all children regardless of being at home or school.

We are asking that all children (and as many families as possible) take part in the daily Joe Wickes

'Body Coach' 10 minute workout routines at **9am** every morning following this link;

<https://twitter.com/thebodycoach/status/1240600083458068480?s=12>

# Covid 19 Update

Further clarification was published at midnight last night about school closures. We can't emphasise enough it is in the best interests of your children, family and the country if you keep children at home. As the Health Minister Matt Hancock has stated, "If you stay at home you are saving lives".

However, from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, children of key workers who absolutely need to attend school so their parents can carry out key worker duties will be offered limited school provision. This provision is only for the period of time within normal school times that the key worker is at work and **only if children can not be looked after by anyone else**. Our nursery provision can not be extended for younger children nor are we able to offer additional sessions.

We understand that some key workers work shifts and will do our best to accommodate this. Parents need to give us as much notice as possible about changes to shift patterns.

Other children who are subject to an EHC plan may attend school if the parent wishes.

## Frequently Asked Questions

Will I need proof I am a key worker? *Yes, you will need to provide proof that you are working in a key worker role on the first day you bring your child to school.*

Am I classed as a key worker? *The government guidance document can be found on the following link; <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision> Our staff can give more specific guidance.*

If my child is attending school, do they need to wear uniform? *Yes, we are trying to keep normality as much as possible.*

What about school lunches? *There will be no hot lunches but a 'grab bag' service will be available as normal for children accessing school provision. For other children at home, those entitled to Free School Meals (Pupil Premium) can pick up a grab bag from school. Please tell us if you are entitled to a free school meal and self-isolating. If you would like to register for free school meals, please let the office know.*

Can children play out? *There are currently no restrictions about children playing out, however they should practise social distancing.*

Further guidance is available at;

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers?fbclid=IwAR3BBqEL8ONj7fgaVAepTdxw0lcPEMjvuZh2nio7\\_yBi36o\\_3JaVbhVYsLM#closures-of-schools-childcare-and-other-educational-settings](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers?fbclid=IwAR3BBqEL8ONj7fgaVAepTdxw0lcPEMjvuZh2nio7_yBi36o_3JaVbhVYsLM#closures-of-schools-childcare-and-other-educational-settings)