

# Pegswood Primary School News

<http://www.pegswood.northumberland.sch.uk/website>

Issue 28

Friday 12th June



We hope this newsletter finds you safe and well.

On Wednesday the Prime Minister announced that the government's plan to reintroduce Years 2,3,4 and 5 back to school before the end of this current school year had been dropped. He stated that he hoped this would now happen in September, although we are awaiting further information about how this will look.

At this moment, and for the foreseeable future in this school year, school will remain open only to the children of critical workers and those deemed vulnerable, following the government's definition in March.

If your situation has changed and you feel you may meet one of these criteria, please contact school. However, please be aware that we need one week's notice in order for us to amend risk assessments currently in place and to ensure staffing is adequate for the numbers of children in school.

We appreciate that during this unprecedented time, it may be getting harder to motivate your children and engage them in school work. We thank you for all you are doing at home to encourage your child to continue to work. If you would like us to print off weekly packs for your child to complete alongside work set by your teacher on Class Dojo, please message your class teacher to request a pack. This can be collected from school.

Once again, thank you for your support and all you are doing to try and engage your child in their school work.

## **Free School Meals**

If you feel that your circumstances have changed regarding employment or anything else and you now believe you may qualify for Free School Meals, please look at the advice below and follow the link to see.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit

Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)



Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:  
younger than the [compulsory age for starting school](#)  
or  
in full-time education

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they're in on 31 March 2022.

The application for Free School Meals is not referring to the Universal Free School Meals that were available to all children from Reception to Year 2.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

### **Virtual School Games**

Over the years, hundreds of children from our school have had the opportunity to compete against other schools in School Games events. As a school, we have had success in winning some events and thus representing our Ashington and Coquet area in the Northumberland School Games.



These will obviously not be happening this year, but Northumberland and Tyne & Wear have joined together to bring us this year's Virtual School Games. This will take place on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June – next week - and they will be for all age groups.

You will be able to follow the day on YouTube. If you are unable to make a specific time, the content can be viewed at a later date.

The day will start with an Opening Ceremony starring a special guest. Throughout the day there will be challenges suitable for children from EYFS through to secondary age. They've all been delivered by local clubs and sports providers and have been designed for children to practise on their own with minimal equipment. The organisers have worked hard to ensure that content is relevant for all children whether they are in school or at home and for a wide range of ability levels.

The link to view the programme of events is: <https://www.tynewearsport.org/vsg20>

Next week you will see the event being publicised on social media, including the Northumberland School Games own Facebook page which will be regularly updated with information about the day.

<https://en-gb.facebook.com/NorthumberlandSchoolGames/>

Although a little different this year, we can have as many children as possible taking part in the School Games. If you are able to take a photo of your child taking part in any of the activities, please do (or put it on Tapestry if your child is in Early Years) your class teacher. The organisers would also like children to design their own Virtual School Games mascot!

As with everything at the moment, please try and attempt as much or as little of the suggestions, ideas and work that you are able to. Teachers will continue to offer as much support as they possibly can. We understand how tough this situation is at the moment for everyone. You are not alone in the worries and frustrations that you might be feeling at the moment. Many of our own staff are also feeling exactly the same as they try to continue a home learning programme with their own children.

Our school office remains open each day between the hours of 8.30am-11.00am if you need to get in touch with school.

Take care.

