

# Pear Tree Mead Academy

*Educating children 2 – 11*

Pear Tree Mead, Harlow, CM18 7BY

☎ 01279 836181 Fax 01279 423504

[headteacher@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk)



Head Teacher Mrs C. Peden BA(Ed) (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher

Assistant Head Mrs Rebecca Arnould BA (Hons) PGCE

Chair of Governors Mrs W Beckett

Mrs L Davies BA (ChEd)

SEND Co & Head of Early Years Mrs S Martin LLB (Hons) (PGCE)

Dear parents/carers,

I hope you all had a restful Easter break (if not very unusual) and welcome to our very first remote summer term!

We've all had to adapt to new ways of working, so I wanted to take the opportunity to say what an amazing job you're doing supporting your child's wellbeing and learning during this time.

It's definitely been a strange and challenging time, so it's ok if you and your child feel wobbly and worried at the moment. We're here for you every step of the way as we figure this all out together. Remember, if you have any concerns about helping your child learn or you need any other support from the school, you should get in contact by email.

Mrs Townsend, will generally be your first point for call for general enquiries as she will communicate messages to other staff and get a response from you, she is still available every day via email. – [kate.townsend@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk](mailto:kate.townsend@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk). You should also contact Mrs Arnould via Mrs Townsend's email if you have a safeguarding concern please.

Miss Bartlett (Family Liaison Officer) can be contacted direct if you are worried about financial implications of this time, and / or need support as a family because you may be struggling emotionally. [ruth.b@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk](mailto:ruth.b@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk)

Miss Thurgood is available for children with SEND needs and can support these families with any barriers to learning at home as well as any support you may need with mental health and can support our young carers.

[katrina.t@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk](mailto:katrina.t@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk) she can provide you with links with the charity MIND and they can offer phone support to families that might need some extra help.

We all miss the children very much, but we must follow the government's guidance to keep everyone in our community safe. So, we're carrying on with home learning for the children – new packs will be sent out via email and the app every two weeks. (There will be activities for you to choose daily on here – English, Maths and Topic work – please pick activities that your children would like to complete – it's ok to adapt them as you wish. You can record the



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children's work in their home work books – please let us know if you need a new one – we have some that you can come and pick up)

Bug Club, TTRS, Letterjoins and Busy Things will continue and be updated every two weeks. The school website is now full of new ideas and things to try. There are lots of on-line ideas and live streams from celebrities and British locations. We will be looking at how to engage children with their reading and we will be in touch soon about this.

Stay in touch with our school website, we are starting to post stories read aloud by members of staff, as well as enjoying the story, perhaps your child can guess which members of staff are reading them.

The BBC have released that they are starting online learning from 20<sup>th</sup> April. There are daily lessons which your children may want to take part in. These are also available via the red button on smart televisions.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>

The government have released a list of online resources

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources>

We are pleased to also let you know that the Oak Academy have released online learning lessons. These can be found at

<https://www.thenational.academy/>

Twinkl are continuing to offer free downloads of any materials. You can always use these without a printer and write the answers in homework books.

We don't mind what the children are learning at home, as we have said before it's about keeping basic skills going. Having fun, being together as a family, explore your interests, trying new things, daily exercise and thinking about mental health and wellbeing are just as important.

Please remember to be aware of what your children are accessing online and if you have any concerns about safeguarding please report them to school or social care or the police if necessary.



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But just because we're not all in the same building, doesn't mean we can't have some fun together! Your children will have lots of activities they can get stuck into over the summer term – so keep a close eye on the app, email and the school website for more information.

We also love seeing the children's fantastic learning at home – please keep sending their work in to [celebrations@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk](mailto:celebrations@peartreemead.essex.sch.uk) as we would like to showcase it in due course. We are sending home a special recognition to those who have worked extra hard.

The school will continue to stay open for those children whose parents are key workers and spaces must be booked via the app in advance. Children should only attend if it is really needed as government advice is that they are safer at home. The children at school have been working on lots of fun activities and these will continue over the coming weeks.

The government have provided families that are entitled to Free School Meals with support for lunches. This has not been a smooth process and has caused extra stress for staff and families. Hopefully this will get easier over time. There are quite a lot of families who haven't yet redeemed their vouchers. Please check your junk email for your email to help you redeem your e-code to get your e-gift card.

We can't say yet when we'll be able to open the school fully but rest assured that we'll continue doing our utmost to keep your child learning and our school community connected. Please keep an eye on our Friends Of Facebook page – they will be posting some new information soon.

As soon as we have more information from the government, we will let you know. If we do manage to open before the end of term, we will let you know how this will work and then what activities will be taking place. If we do not open before the end of term, we will work out how we will work transition into new classes and let you know.

Let's get cracking with our summer term!

Warm regards,

Mrs Peden

