

# The Pinner Park Post



Learning • Character • Community

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## Better together

You may be familiar with the proverb, 'Alone we go faster, together we go further'. The origin of the phrase is unknown, but I think it makes a great deal of sense – especially in these difficult times.

At Pinner Park, we never underestimate the power of teamwork. Community is so important to us that it is right there at the heart of our school vision, 'Learning, Character, Community'. Understanding that we don't exist in isolation is important for our children to understand, and all of us.

We have certainly felt a sense of 'team' over the past month.

We have been so impressed with the children as they have engaged with remote learning so well. It's not easy, but we are working together.

We have also been so thankful for the warm feedback from parents and carers. The task our staff members are undertaking is not one they would have chosen. We would all prefer to have our children back in school. We'd prefer to be teaching in class. It's what we're good at! The challenge of remote learning is felt sharply by parents and carers, but also by our staff members. The positive feedback and supportive comments help to sustain them - like nourishment for the soul! We have started collecting together positive comments from parents, from our phonecalls and emails, to share with the entire staff team. It means so much to us all. Thank you.

We wish you a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes,

*Nick Waldron*

Headteacher

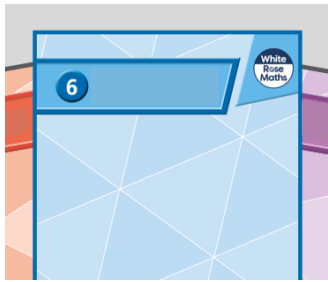


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## White Rose Workbooks – COLLECT TODAY

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If you have not yet collected your new White Rose Maths workbooks (Years 1 – 6) then you can collect today. Our collection point is open from 8.45am to 11.45am and from 1.30pm to 3.15pm.

Please note that we will only allow one adult from each family onto the school site and we will be observing strict social distancing. You must wear a face covering. Please be prepared to wait at busy times.

## Free School Meals Vouchers

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Last Friday, we sent £30 per-child in vouchers to all those eligible for a benefits-related free school meal. Parents of children eligible for a free school meal should have received an email or text message. If you have not received your voucher, please let us know.

## Children's Mental Health Week – NEXT WEEK

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The first ever Children's Mental Health Week was launched in 2015 to shine a spotlight on the importance of children and young people's mental health. The event is now in its seventh year.

Next week, 1 - 7 February, schools, youth groups, organisations and individuals across the UK will take part in Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme is: 'Express Yourself'.

Expressing yourself is about finding ways to share feelings, thoughts, or ideas, through creativity. This could be through art, music, writing and poetry, dance and drama, photography and film, and doing activities that make you feel good.

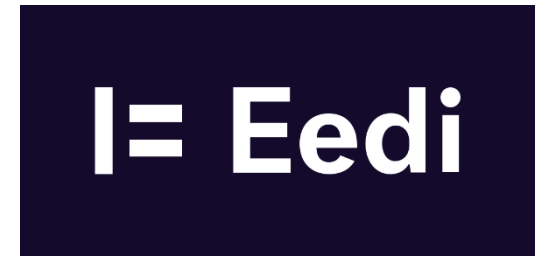
It's important to remember that being able to express yourself is not about being the best at something or putting on a performance for others. It is about finding a way to show who you are, and how you see the world, that can help you feel good about yourself.

For Children's Mental Health Week 2021 we will be encouraging children (and adults) to explore the different ways we can express ourselves, and the creative ways that we can share our feelings, our thoughts and our ideas.

There are lots of resources on the [Children's Mental Health Week website](#) that you can use with your child at home, including activity ideas and tips for parents and carers.

## Introducing Eedi

If the children were in school, we would be using quizzes and short assessments to gain a better understanding of their learning progress. In mathematics, we can also use the responses to these quizzes and assessments to find out about misconceptions or misunderstanding, which informs our planning for future lessons.



Over the next few weeks, our teachers may start to set some quizzes through 'Eedi'. Eedi is a diagnostic questions toolkit for teachers, students and parents, designed to make learning and understanding easier for everyone. Using Eedi's research-based 'Diagnostic Questions', teachers receive detailed insights into student misconceptions and are able to deliver more targeted support. The quizzes will be completely aligned to the White Rose Maths scheme and will be set out in familiar ways.

To access Eedi, children will need to log in to <https://eedi.com> using a unique user name and password. We're really sorry that this will be another log in to remember, but individual log in accounts means that we can analyse the children's responses more easily. Your child's log in details will be shared during your next phone call from school.

## Covid Testing

Harrow has introduced Rapid COVID testing for people who are not showing any symptoms of COVID. Also known as a Lateral Flow Test (LFT), Rapid COVID testing gives a positive or negative COVID result in approximately 30-40 minutes.

Harrow recommends that if you are leaving your house each day, then you should test twice weekly. This would include parents who are dropping off and collecting children at school (children of critical workers).



### You can book a free Rapid COVID test if:

- you do not have any symptoms of COVID and
- you are over 16 years old.

You can [book a free Rapid COVID](#) test using Harrow's online form.



### You should not book a free Rapid COVID test if:

- you have symptoms of COVID (a high temperature, a new continuous cough, a loss or changed to your sense of smell or taste.)

If you have any symptoms of COVID you can [book a free PCR](#) test at one of the local testing sites.

For further information visit: <https://www.harrow.gov.uk/test>

Many of our staff members are now testing twice weekly. This is to ensure that our school is the safest place it can be for everyone.

## Pinner Park Online - Fun in the Snow and Weekly Assembly

Wasn't it wonderful to see the snow on Sunday! It was a fabulous break from some of the routines and challenges of lockdown. We were so pleased to see all your photos and videos, which we have now shared on our website. If you haven't yet taken a look, then please do. You may even spot some staff members having fun!



We have a few more pictures and videos to add – those that came to us on from Monday lunchtime onwards. If anyone hasn't yet sent theirs in and would like to share them with others, please email a photo or a very short video (5 seconds) to [office@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk](mailto:office@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk). The deadline for our final video montage is tomorrow at 12pm.

Our weekly pre-recorded assemblies are back! Visit [Pinner Park Online](#) to view this week's assembly which is on the theme of Snowdrops.

## Personal, Social, Health and Relationships Education



As a part of your child's educational experience at Pinner Park, we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive taught programme of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) that gives children and young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live healthy, safe, productive and fulfilled lives, both now and in the future.

We have reviewed our relationships and sex education policy so that we can be sure our teaching matches the government's new guidance and also represents high-quality learning opportunities for the children.

As we develop our policy further, we want to work with a small group of parents to share our thoughts and to review our planned communications. Thank you to those parents who have already volunteered to be part of the team. If you would be interested in being part of that small focus group, please do let us know by sending an email to [office@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk](mailto:office@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk)

The focus group will meet remotely.



HM Government

**We must keep on protecting each other.**

NHS

**HANDS** **FACE** **SPACE**

STAY ALERT > CONTROL THE VIRUS > SAVE LIVES