



Boxford CEVC Primary School

Not just one school, two schools, during lockdown!

Every week when we “Clap for Our Carers” we think about all of those who are working through the lockdown to help keep us safe, fed and well. I thought you may be interested to hear how Boxford Primary are operating through these difficult times. Although the headlines tell us schools are shut the reality is that we are now running two schools.

In Boxford our school has been open for key workers children since the lockdown. An incredibly dedicated team have worked through the Easter holidays and have only closed their doors to these children at weekends and the Easter bank holidays. Whilst our second virtual school has supported our children and parents at home with lessons to keep them occupied and minimize the impact of the lockdown on their learning. This has not just been with online materials but also providing hard copies of worksheets and activities where this is better for our families. We know these are unsettling times for our children so the focus of the learning is on English and Maths but plenty of time to explore and learn. Support is there if needed but every family will be managing lockdown in their own way and many are rediscovering and inventing indoor and outdoor puzzles and games and sharing books and films.

So I would like to say a big thank you to the staff of Boxford School who have been keeping our children in touch with their learning. To all the teachers who volunteered to join the rota to come in to school and teach our children and all the teaching assistants who have come in to support them. To all those teachers emailing and supporting our online learning from home. To our caretaker and cleaning staff who keep the building safe and clean. To the kitchen staff who have been feeding our children and staff throughout the lockdown. To our office staff who have had to carry on with their usual workload and battle with new Government programs. To my board of Governors who have had zoom meetings to approve budgets and policies and discuss how we are going to find funding to get the swimming pool up and running again and perhaps available for wider community use.

Special mention has to go to our incredible headteacher Justine Davies. Since the lockdown began she has been in school every day. Her dedication to our community has meant that Boxford is one of the schools that has stayed open for key workers children where many have not been able to. It is incredibly challenging for everyone at the school but the good humor and hard work of our headteacher and her amazing team is keeping the younger members of our community busy and key workers children cared for whilst they work. For me the renewed appreciation for those in our communities who are working hard for others is one of the biggest positives from the current situation and our school and all its staff definitely deserve our thanks and admiration.

Sally Connolly
Chair of Governors
Boxford Primary School