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Home learning information for parents and carers during school closures

Dear Parents and Carers

I know that this will be a worrying time for many of you and you may feel overwhelmed with differing responsibilities. Many of you may feel the prospect of keeping your child busy and learning through this unusual time an additional burden so I am hoping that this letter will make things a little clearer and easier for you.

Your child has now been given a home learning code which needs to be scanned using the Seesaw Class app. Alternatively the numerical code can be entered on a desktop computer using the address <https://app.seesaw.me>

Each home learning code is unique to the pupil and other pupils/parents will not be able to access any other student's work.

Remote teaching

Each weekday (or school day) your child's teacher will provide some home learning activities for your child to access and complete. **These do not need to be completed on a computer/device.** They just need to be accessed this way.

After completing the home learning tasks, then your child can photograph their work on the app and submit them to their teacher for feedback, which the class teacher will give remotely. This may be typed or recorded as an audio message. Your child will bring home an exercise book which they can complete written tasks in but equally their own notebooks and journals are fine too!

I have written a list of questions you may have to try to assist further.

How much work will my child be getting?

The class teacher will set two key activities a day. One will be English/reading/writing focused and one will be mathematical. In addition, they will suggest other activities that you can do to broaden learning experiences related to art, music, science and so on.

What if my child does not understand the tasks set or they are too hard or easy?

The teachers will try hard to make the work accessible and appropriate to your child but will be happy to help with any problems, just as they would if teaching face to face. Use the messaging function on Seesaw to contact them. The teachers will be available during the course of the school day to help and respond. Messages can be sent at other times but these may not be responded to until working hours resume.

What if my child becomes ill?

Just as if they were at school, if they are unwell, they need to take time to recover. They do not need to try and keep up! Please message the teacher with any concerns or worries.

Can my child type or voice their work?

Yes, there are options on Seesaw for them to add files using typing, drawing, video or audio recordings.

What if I do not have the equipment I need?

The teachers are very aware that your home will not be set up like a school and we will be mindful that of the types of activities we are setting. However, if you are concerned, please get in touch and we will try our very best to help. If you need technical support - contact me - or try using the Seesaw help centre online which has lots of support for parents and carers.

Do I need a time table?

Do things as works for you. However, many children benefit from a routine, especially when other things are uncertain. You could use this structure:

9am - 9:30 am	Reading. Sharing stories.	9:30 am - 10:30 am	Writing task as set
11am - 12pm	Maths activity	1pm - 2:30pm	Art, music, topic tasks Physical activity, outdoor learning

In addition to the above - please remember these things are always important.

- Reading. Read to your child and read with them. Reading will always be a key skill! Read books, magazines and read online! The school is happy to send home a few extra books if you need them.
- Spellings - look online for a guide to spellings for your child's year group.
- Key number skills - for Reception and year 1, number bonds to 10 and 20. So 1 and 9, 2 and 8 and so on. For year 2 and upwards, instant recall of times tables and related facts. So if $4 \times 8 = 32$ then $32 \div 4 = 8$.
- Practise money. For younger children, counting coins and knowing their values. For older children thinking about how much change, or which deal is better style questions (e.g. a pack of 9 toilet rolls at 4.89 each or a pack of 24 toilet rolls for £12.50).
- Time - telling the time in both analogue and digital and using the 24 hour clock. For older children in KS2 how long until questions? For UKS2, more difficult questions (e.g.: if it takes me 90 minutes to travel to work and I have to arrive before 8:50am, what is the latest time I can leave?)

Finally, spending time with your children doing enjoyable things is definitely a priority and even more so in these uncertain times. We value your child's physical health, mental health and well-being more than any of the above so please enjoy board games, playing outside, listening to music, cooking together and all those other lovely things too.

Thank you all for your support.
Kerri Hastings