



24 April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

First, we would like to say a huge thank you to you and your children for all the work you have been able to carry out under very trying circumstances. We know it has not always been easy and sympathise with the difficulties parents are experiencing. Thank you also for all the feedback we have received and we are doing our best to address any concerns.

While we appreciate that there are a wide range of views in how we move forward with home learning, we continue to use ongoing advice from the government and recommendations from the teachers' unions in terms of online provision, as well as, taking into consideration our own staff's situations. With all these aspects fully considered, we have decided that the best option is to use some of the excellent online teaching resources already created and recommended.

Below is an outline of our home learning structure from next week. It includes some changes and ways we in which we aim to improve communication using various platforms which we hope will help to improve home learning.

- A **weekly timetable** directing you to Maths and English lessons/activities in the morning. It will also include suggestions for a range of afternoon topic and subject activities. The timetable will continue to be on the class page on the school website.
- Some year groups are trialling English and Maths lessons using an excellent online teaching resource from **Oak National Academy** providing video lessons and resources. This has been recommended by the Department for Education. Teachers will signpost the relevant lessons for your child on the timetable (these will be from week beginning 20th April because we are using lessons from a week behind to enable our teachers to see the lessons in advance before deciding what to use for your children). Teachers may also supplement the lessons from other online sources, as appropriate.
- Your child's teacher will send a **video**. This may be a story, a song or simply just to say hello (once Seesaw is in use the video will be posted here).
- KS2 classes will soon be up and running with a platform called **SeeSaw**. We are in the process of setting it up and all information has been sent out to the relevant classes. We will soon follow this up with KS1 classes too. Year 6 have been using this format

all year and it is a wonderful way to communicate between parents, children, their teachers and their Assistant Headteachers too!

- **Year group emails** have also been set up. We have been able to communicate and respond to children's work and your questions using this platform too.
- Home learning for the week ahead will be posted on the class page on the Friday before rather than Sunday to allow you time to work out your week.
- On next week's timetables, look out for Miss Fryer's excellent **DT challenge**, Toby's **Art lessons** as well as Riaan and Joseph's **PE challenge**!
- On the Home Learning page, you will also find a weekly **Rights Respecting Article** which contains many engaging activities to help children gain an understanding of their lives in lockdown whilst gaining knowledge of the Articles in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (**UNCRC**).

A bit of information about Oak Academy:

Oak National Academy <https://www.thenational.academy/>

Recommended by the DfE, this is an online classroom and resource hub created by a group of teachers who have got together to put daily lessons online for primary and secondary schools. The aim is to provide sequenced video lessons and resources in English and Maths (and other subjects). The planning is weekly with five lessons in both English and Maths (we will use lessons from the previous week, as previously mentioned).

Links on current Government guidance for parents

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online>

The children in school will also follow this model as much as is possible within cross phase teaching, to avoid any difference.

We will also post a whole school challenge or theme each week that everyone can join in with.

Stay well and look after one another,

Mandi