



Thursday 7th January 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Home Learning Update

We appreciate that returning to home learning is not how anyone would want to start the new year. Our thoughts are with you all as you juggle working, supporting children and life in another lockdown. As you will have seen this week, we have changed the way we support children to learn at home since the first lockdown. We have chosen to use Oak Academy and White Rose so that we can ensure consistency of what is being taught in school and at home. We hope that you have found the planning and links easy to use. I will be conducting a live zoom on Friday 8th January at 4.30pm to talk through the current provision, offer some friendly advice and share our plans for the future.

To join the zoom meeting please click on the code below. This will take you to the waiting room. **I do ask parents to rename themselves as their oldest child so I am able to ensure who is joining the meeting.** We did a poll on Facebook and there appears to be a lot of demand for this meeting so please can you try and log in from 4.20pm. Participants will be muted on entry and I also ask that this **meeting is for parents and carers only**. There will be a time for questions but I would prefer not to discuss individual children or cases. We can arrange a separate occasion to support you with this.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89730708819?pwd=Ryt2TWdHSGhwbGVlSW9nR3BVY1dRUT09>

Meeting ID: 897 3070 8819

Passcode: 123117

In accordance with our Remote Learning Policy, we will be increasing our home learning provision from next week. Under the home learning tab, you will find a project plan for each year group and more detailed phonics plans for Keys Stage 1 (years 1 and 2). We are also planning how teachers can connect more with the children who are learning from home and more information about this will follow next week. You should also have received an email today with a link to a form to request home learning packs. Please complete the form by Monday 11th January to enable us to get the packs ready by Friday 15th January.

Reading at home

We want to encourage children to read as much as possible during this lockdown.

“Books enable children to discover new worlds, meet new people and learn about the past, but they also have the power to transform lives. By sparking growing imaginations, stimulating critical thinking and helping to develop empathy, reading gives children the very skills they need to succeed at school, at work and in life.”
Cressida Cowell

If your child is in Key Stage 1, please listen to them read for at least ten minutes every day. In Key Stage 2, every child should aim to read for 30 minutes every day to continue their development of vocabulary and comprehension skills. More importantly, it will be a designated time each day where children can escape the worries of the current global situation and escape into an imaginary world.

Children can read any books they have brought home from school, favourite books from home or a comic. Please also look at the Serial Mash section of Purple Mash. Serial Mash is an online library of fiction books. There are stories about almost everything – from pirates and football to magical creatures and children who gain strange powers. Each book has quizzes and activities to explore, too. Each selection of books has a recommended age band but please help your child to choose the books that best suit their reading level.

<https://www.purplemash.com/#tab/pm-home/serialmash>

If your child is looking for suggestions of books to read, please take a look at this website.

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/>

Alternatively Oxford Owls has a range of free, online, colour banded books available on their website. If you are unsure of your child's book band colour, please email your child's teacher via the year group emails addresses.

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/free-ebooks/>

As in the last lockdown we will regularly review our home learning. We all appreciate that this situation is challenging for everyone. Thank you for continuing to be so supportive and for working with us.

With my very best wishes to you all,



Mrs Bull
Headteacher

