



Deanery C.E. Primary School

Head Teacher: Mrs Jayne Luckett, BSc (Hons), PGCE, NPQH



8 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope you are all safe and well as we reach the end of the first week of Lockdown 3 .

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to ALL of the Deanery staff who have worked tirelessly over the last week to ensure that school could open safely for as many children as possible and that the children at home received a high quality home learning offer.

Can we also say a big thank you to parents and children for engaging with home learning and for those that have extended kind words – these really do mean a lot in these challenging times.

We wanted to write to you to update you as to how we are looking to continue to develop our Home Learning offer for this lockdown. We appreciate the strain home schooling places on parents, on technology and on devices. At present we appreciate that you have e-mails, Google Drive, Seesaw, TT Rockstars, Bug Club and Zoom to navigate and are therefore looking to streamline our home learning to make it more manageable and to ultimately benefit our children.

We are therefore looking to move more of our learning across to Google Classroom. Details of how to log on to this can be found in your Home Learning folders and as an attachment below.

Next week, in order to ease children in gently each year group will be running a daily storytime session – KS2 at 2.30pm and KS1 at 3.00pm which can be accessed via Google Classroom. You will be sent a link by your teacher and all children need to do is grab a blanket, a favourite toy and a hot drink, log on to the meeting, settle back and enjoy the story read by the class teachers. Hopefully parents, this may give you a 20 minute breather too!

We will also move our weekly wellbeing sessions from Zoom to Google Meet, which is part of the Google Classroom suite. Again, all the children need to do is click on the link to join the session in the same way as Zoom. Class teachers will inform you of the time for this session.

The following week (w.b. 18th Jan) we will also be introducing a daily 'in touch' session for the children. This will take place at 9am for KS2 and 9.30am for KS1. The purpose of these briefings is to set the outline for the day's learning and provide some live input for the first sessions. The story time sessions will also continue this week as will the Google Meet well-being session.

The next week (w.b. 25th Jan) we will be introducing a 3rd contact session where there will be input and teaching for another lesson each day. Times will be confirmed by class teachers nearer the time.

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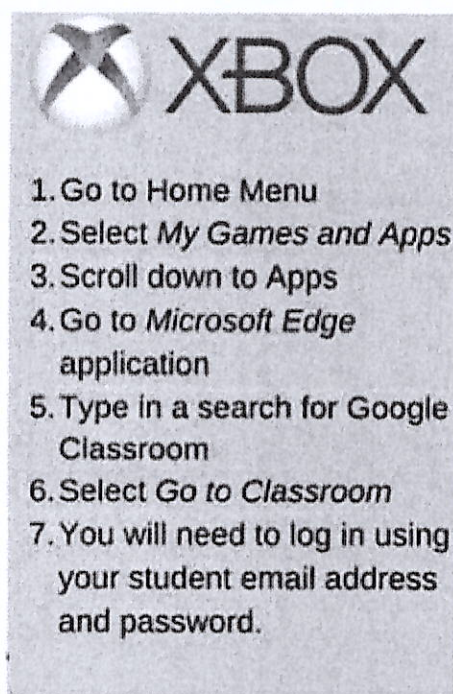
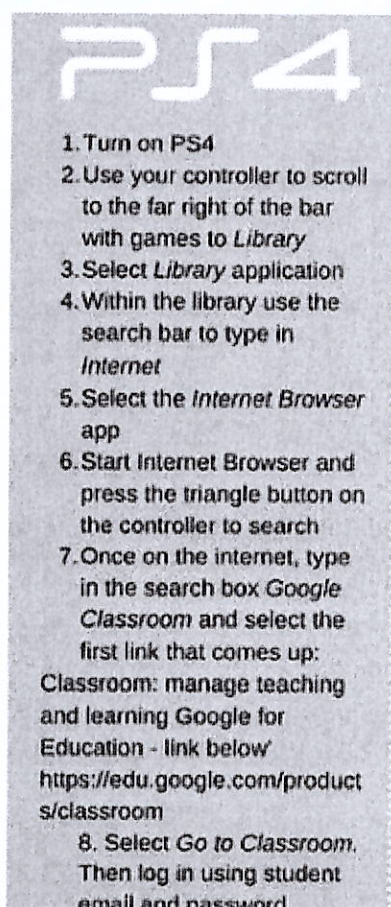
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We appreciate that not all children may be able to log on to all sessions as there may be conflicts in timing, use of devices etc but our aim is to attempt to build on the sense of connection between school and home and to reduce the risk of the children losing what they have learnt in the last term.

Google Classroom can also be accessed on SMART TVs, Smart phones, X-box and PS4 which may help the strain on laptops etc



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The Home Learning is there to support you and your children to learn at home whilst we get this virus under control, so if you do not log on to every meeting or your child is not enjoying them, or they do not fit with your work / home learning schedule then please do not stress. If you need the children to engage in BBC lessons for a day or so, or you all need to go for a walk during the day then that is okay. To be honest it is probably better than okay, if trying to keep to the timetable and log on each time is going to cause you and your children to be overly stressed.

There might be teething problems that arise with the technology so if you log on and you are not admitted or there is a sound or video problem etc then please just log off, have a look at the timetable and go for it. Do not stress, do what you think is right for your child and have a go at the daily work or an alternative.

Also, if you only have one device and your children have their online meeting at the same time and you want to take part then please do alternate days or choose which year group's learning you need the explanation for etc.

Your children are resilient and if you explain something incorrectly, it will not affect them forever. We need the children back with us, with well parents, when we get out of this situation. When we are all back together again physically, we will work with your children and help them catch up again.

We thank you for your understanding and patience - we are all learning at the moment and trying to do what is right for our Deanery children. We will continue to communicate any further developments with you and thank you in advance for working with us to support your children.

Jayne Luckett (Mrs)

Head Teacher
Deanery C.E Primary School