



Deanery C.E. Primary School

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



7 January 2021

Dear Parents

As we move into an extended period of remote learning, we feel it is important to communicate the offer for all children.

Each day your child will receive an email from their class teacher outlining the home learning tasks for the day. This information will also be available on the Home Learning Pages on Google Drive

CGP Books

Each child has already received a bundle of CGP Catch Up Essentials books to ensure that home learning is immediately available. Pages will be set from these books by the teachers to supplement additional learning tasks.

These books have been purchased to provide children with an alternative method of home learning and to avoid a total reliance on digital devices. If you were unable to collect these from school, our staff delivered these to homes on Tuesday.

Home Learning on Google Drive

Home learning will be uploaded to the home learning on the Google Drive. Each child has been provided with a school email address in order to be able to access this.

Work will be uploaded the night before in order to give parents time to look at the activities in advance if they wish to.

Teachers will also send a daily email to the children's email address to outline the tasks for the day.

Children will be set daily English and maths tasks and will also receive Science, Creative Curriculum, RE, Spanish work via Google Drive in order to ensure that we continue to provide as broad and balanced a curriculum as possible.

This work may include links to Oak National Academy, White Rose Maths or other online learning resources. Expectations for the tasks which children need to be complete will be shared by the teacher.

Children working from home as well as those in school, will also be able to access whole-school assemblies which have been pre-recorded due to Covid-19 restrictions. These will also be shared via Home Learning on Google Drive

We will be setting on average of between 3 and 5 hours of home learning each day in line with the Government guidelines, please do not feel under pressure to complete every bit of the work if it is taking longer than anticipated.

Address: Fox Hollies Road, Walmley, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B76 2RD

Telephone: 0121 351 6441/6615 Facsimile: 0121 313 0320 Email: enquiry@deanery.bham.sch.uk Website: www.deanery.bham.sch.uk



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Seesaw

Children have all been given Seesaw codes in order to upload their work and share it with their teachers. It is not necessary to do this for every piece of work but if your child does wish to do this then teachers will mark and provide feedback.

Support

If assistance or support is needed with home learning, an email to the Contact email address contact@deanery.bham.sch.uk allows for direct contact with your child's class teacher/ Deputy Head teacher. They will reply as quickly as they possibly can within the hours of their school working day (8:30am-4pm)

Weekly Zoom

Each class teacher will facilitate a weekly Zoom meeting with their class, this will give them opportunities to 'check in', answer any questions or queries and provide a fun activity e.g. a quiz in order to bring the class community together. This facility may well increase as children become more familiar with this form of communication.

Well being phonecalls

Teachers will resume the fortnightly wellbeing phone calls from today, these are an opportunity for teachers to check in with the child, have a chat and answer any questions or queries. It is important that the teacher speaks directly to the child and we thank you for facilitating this. Please be aware that due to staff having to use personal phones, the phone numbers may well come from a withheld number. We will endeavour to leave a voice message if we cannot contact you in order to let you know it is us!

At present wellbeing phone calls are scheduled for w/b 4.1.21, w/b 18.1.21 and w/b 1.2.21, however please be aware that staff are planning, teaching and making phone calls so some may take a little longer than others.

We look forward to chatting with your children and seeing how they are getting on. Should your child require additional phone calls, this will be facilitated. We are still here for you!

Video lessons

The Deanery has at all times considered what might be the most effective means of delivering home learning to pupils during times of national lockdown. All schools need to assess what will be best for their respective setting, appreciating that any method for delivering home learning will inevitably have both benefits and limitations. Remote teaching raises potential safeguarding considerations. Whilst these are not, of themselves, insurmountable, the school must also weigh considerations such as whether households have the necessary number of devices in the home, as well as available data/internet connection. For remote teaching to succeed, all families need a sufficiently stable/reliable internet connection for pupils to access classes throughout the school day, potentially at the same time as parents needing connectivity to work from home, and siblings needing connectivity to work on their respective home learning too.

We know that remote teaching is not currently accessible for all families at the Deanery. We know that some households need to complete schoolwork on paper, and/or complete home learning work around a parent's working day. Our teaching staff are all in work, every day, but are also supervising those children who are in school for childcare purposes during lockdown, adding further complexity to their ability to deliver remote teaching, particularly to younger children.

The majority of schools nationally, and certainly locally (both in primary and secondary settings), have opted not to adopt the remote teaching model. That said, it is not something that we have ruled out either. Like many other schools, it is again something we are re-visiting at this time, to explore the viability and, if possible, to bring variety to the learning being offered. However, we must reflect and balance the preferences of some against the reality for all our families, to ensure that no-one is substantially disadvantaged by the choices we make. Please read the research from the Education Endowment Fund which has analysed the impact of live lessons and may provide some understanding of the reasons why we have not implemented live lessons at this point.

[https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19 Resources/Remote learning evidence review/Rapid Evidence Assessment summary.pdf](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19%20Resources/Remote%20learning%20evidence%20review/Rapid%20Evidence%20Assessment%20summary.pdf)

Google classroom is very much a way forward for us as we all adapt and change to the global pandemic, year groups will be moving to this interactive learning platform in the near future. Some year groups have begun to implement this and we are looking to exploring and moving this forward at pace.

Broad and balanced curriculum

We are very much of the view that variety is key and that the work set should be manageable for our children and parents. Please be assured that teachers are continuing to differentiate and provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all. We are in a much more knowledgeable position to one we found ourselves in March and home learning this time around will look very different.

We aim to ensure that all families are able to access the education we provide, which is why we are providing a mixture of lessons across the whole curriculum as well as a variety of ways to record including extended writing in exercise books as well as the shorter tasks workbooks, power points creation and sharing, learning through play activities as age appropriate, practical tasks and research projects, video learning links such as the Oak Academy , school collective worship, set reading texts and a little singing along the way. A focussed, balanced and practical education.

On a personal note can we say thank you for the absolute wealth of positivity and support from the whole school community that we have received. We have been inundated with messages of thanks for all we are doing to support your children at home and although many of you were disappointed to not receive a place in the childcare facility at school were exceptionally understanding.

Take care and stay safe.

Senior Leadership Team

Mrs Luckett Mrs Cullen Miss Morris Mrs Griffiths