



6th January 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

I can honestly say I didn't think I would be writing a letter to you all again so quickly! I spent most of Monday working out how we can get another year group back into school for Tuesday, only to be told that evening in the Prime Minister's announcement that school was to be closed to most children the next day! I hope you are managing under these challenging circumstances. We also heard in the announcement that schools will remain closed until at least the February half term (15th – 19th February).

Remote Learning

Yesterday, we put our remote learning strategy into action and teachers are uploading work and recordings of their teaching from today for children to access. Please encourage and support your child to access their class work, it is so important that we try to keep children engaged and learning through this lockdown.

We have sent via text, your children's login for our on line learning platform called Seesaw. We will also be sending out the logins for Purple Mash and Times Tables Rock Stars. For information about Seesaw please use this link: <https://web.seesaw.me/home-learning>

Set out below is the minimum that will be provided for each year group from Nursery through to Year 6:

Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception)

Nursery

Daily recorded session of phonics - 15 minutes with a focus on listening skills and recognising sounds

Daily recorded session of Maths - 15 minutes

In addition to this two weekly independent teacher topic related directed activities for all learners

One additional 15 minute recorded session for identified key learners

Daily Boromi "Daily Play" activity

Weekly chart of activities to do around the home

Reception

Two recorded sessions of 20 minutes in length (literacy and maths)

In addition to this two weekly independent teacher topic related directed activities for all learners

One additional 20 minute recorded session for identified key learners

Daily 15 minute phonics provision using the RWI YouTube clips as part of the presentation

Daily Boromi "Daily Play" activity

Weekly chart of activities to do around the home

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Years 1 and 2:

Three 45 minute lessons with teacher recorded input

In addition to this two daily independent teacher directed activities for all learners

One additional 45 minute session for identified key learners

Daily 15 minute phonics provision using the RWI YouTube clips as part of the presentation.

Year 3 and 4:

Four 45 minute lessons with teacher recorded input

One additional 45 minute recorded session for identified key learners

In addition to this at least one daily independent teacher directed activity for all learners

Year 5 and 6:

Four 50 minute lessons with teacher recorded input

One additional 50 minute recorded session for identified key learners

In addition to this at least one daily independent teacher directed activity for all learners

Your children will have a timetable to suggest how their lessons are spaced out throughout the day. Lessons will be a mixture of English, maths and topic. These can be mixed with on line activities such as Joe Wicks PE sessions that will start next Monday (11th January).

Teachers will be able to monitor children's work and be able to communicate with them via Seesaw. An information sheet will also be texted to parents about Seesaw, which is also available on the school website. Teachers will expect to have communication via Seesaw at least once a week with your child. If your child is not logging in and communicating with their teacher every week, then you will receive a phone call from the class teacher or teaching assistant to help support you to ensure your child is accessing their lessons.

From our audit of the technology that families have available to them at home, we will be contacting you to collect laptops and dongles. We are waiting for some Government laptops to arrive, we have presently allocated 29 to families, once, we have our full allocation then we will distribute these as a matter of urgency.

We have also discovered that your children can access our online learning platforms via PlayStation and X-Box devices.

PlayStation

- 1) Identify the PlayStation internet browser icon (the WWW with dots around it)
- 2) Press the PS4 logo on the controller
- 3) Go to the library and find options for games and applications
- 4) Go to applications and you will find the internet browser
- 5) Type www.seesaw.me into the browser and log in as normal (or TT Rock Stars/Purple Mash)
- 6) You can access Word, PowerPoint, and Excel etc. as well

X-Box (You will need a keyboard to access via the X-box)

- 1) If you have a keyboard, plug it into the X box USB slot
- 2) Go to 'my games and apps'
- 3) Find Microsoft edge and select
- 4) Type www.seesaw.me into the browser and log in as normal (or TT Rock Stars/Purple Mash)
- 5) You can access Word, PowerPoint, and Excel etc. as well

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6) To move around use the x-box controller as normal or plug in a mouse

We can loan out keyboards if you need one to quickly access remote learning this way.

Increasing data allowances on mobile devices to support disadvantaged children

There is a Government scheme which will pay to increase the data allowances on mobile phones/tablets for disadvantaged children to access their school work. If you think you are eligible, please contact the school office and we will be able to process this claim for you.

Work Books

Please come to the school office and collect some work books for your children to use. These were purchased in case we had another lockdown. Your child’s teacher will be setting work for their class using these books.

BBC

The BBC are providing 3 hours a day of educational programmes on CBBC, you can allow your children to watch this along with the work that we are providing from school.

Free School Meals

If you are eligible to free school meals for your child, please come and collect a food parcel from the school. We will continue to provide these every week until the voucher system is put back into operation.

Key Workers

We are continuing to offer places for vulnerable children and children of key workers. Key workers are defined as:

<p><u>Health and Social Care Workers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doctors • Nurses • Midwives • Paramedics • Social Workers • Care workers • Support and specialist staff required to maintain the sector • Health and Social Supply chain 	<p><u>Utilities, Communication and Financial Services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential Financial Provision • Oil, Gas, Electricity and water workers • IT and data infrastructure • Civil Nuclear workers • Chemicals workers • Telecommunications workers • Postal service and delivery • Payment providers • Waste disposal sectors 	<p><u>Key Public Services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justice system workers • Religious staff • Charities delivering key frontline services • Workers who manage the deceased • Journalists and public service broadcasters
<p><u>Local and National Government</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those administrative occupations essential to the effective delivery of COVID-19 response and EU transition • Delivery of essential public services, eg payment of benefits 	<p><u>Necessary Goods (Food, Hygiene, Veterinary medicines)</u></p> <p>Food Production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those essential to the delivery of other key goods 	<p><u>Public Safety and National Transport</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police and Support Staff • Ministry of Defence • Armed Forces Personnel • Fire and Rescue • National Crime Agency • Border Security • Prison and Probation Staff
<p><u>Transport (Passenger and Freight)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air, Road, Water, Rail 	<p><u>Education and Childcare</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Childcare staff • Support and Teaching staff • Social Workers • Specialist education professionals 	

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Many parents working in these key sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept safe at home. **Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be to limit the chance of the virus spreading.** If, however, you need your child to be in school, please contact the school office on 0115 9150195. **Do not bring your child to school without informing us by telephone at least a day before**, we have to carefully plan if your child is going to attend. You will be required to complete a form and show your work ID badge or a payslip.

Vulnerable Children

Children classed as vulnerable are attending school; we will contact you if your child meets this criteria. If you feel you have a child who may be considered vulnerable, please contact us.

Key worker and vulnerable children who are attending school must following these procedures.

All children must be brought to and collected from the school office by an adult. If your child is not attending school you MUST inform the school office each day. Please remember, only one person is allowed in the office at a time and masks must be worn by adults.

From Monday the following times will be set for the rest of the term:

Nursery children follow their usual morning and afternoon session times.

Reception children will start from 8:30am – 3pm

Key Stage One (Years 1 & 2) children will start from 8:30am – 3pm

Key Stage Two (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) children will start from 8:45am – 3:15pm

If you are bringing siblings, please bring them together at the earlier start time.

Finally

This was not the start to term we had hoped for, and we appreciate that this will be concerning for parents. However, we would like to thank you for your ongoing support and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to support you.

Keep Safe,

Teresa Shrestha

Headteacher

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