



Headteacher: Rachel Breen B.A. Hons.

Friday July 10th

Dear Parents / Carers

Plans for future home learning: access to technology

Last week, the government published guidance about systems and measures for reopening schools fully in September. In this guidance, we have been told that contingency plans for remote education must continue to be in place, should there be future hub or whole school closures because of COVID19.

Over the period of school closure, we have continually reviewed and developed our provision for home learning, which has consisted of a balance of computer based and non-screen activities. More recently, we have increased the amount of screen based learning in the form of regular teacher led mini lessons in English and Maths, with follow up tasks as per our suggested timetable. We have also been working on including a weekly opportunity for class teachers to have a 'live link up' with the children, for feedback and questions and advice on any of that week's learning. All in addition to the regular calls home plus comments on posted work on Seesaw.

Recently, we were part of the Local Authority Review on Home Learning, and we received the following feedback:

'We are so impressed with how you have continuously reflected on what you are able to offer your pupils and adapt according to their needs. Sharing your case study will I am sure be very beneficial to other schools.' 6th July 2020

Up to this point, the emphasis in the state sector of education has not been on live lessons and indeed the government guidance recommends balance of online and offline resources. However, as we further review our home learning provision and plan for the future, we are looking at continuing to provide the same balance of activities, but with an even greater emphasis on videoed lessons –either live or recorded - as we feel they would be beneficial, together with increased opportunities for live link ups for feedback and questions. We would still provide home learning packs for those wanting written work and the Home Learning Grid for cross curricular work.

In order for this to be successful, it is vital that we get a clear understanding of what technology the children have access to at home in terms of access to computers and the internet, plus the amount of access they have, time wise. For example, which children have sole access to their own device, who shares it with siblings or the whole family etc.

Therefore, we are sending out a survey for parents, so that we can gather this information. We also hope this information might encourage families to think ahead regarding how they will organise or source computer access for all. We appreciate that not all families have funds to improve technology available at home and urge those struggling to get in touch.

Please see below for the links for each year group to their survey:

Year Group	Survey Links (Doodle Poll)
R	https://doodle.com/poll/98kfcfzp789ev5pa
1	https://doodle.com/poll/s62h7rbux6cqif8a
2	https://doodle.com/poll/4ryw3iwgbb2pqbbx
3	https://doodle.com/poll/3gsa5z9774i7q5yw
4	https://doodle.com/poll/3wne2iksg6g76hbb
5	https://doodle.com/poll/396b3nn3syv6wc4n
6	https://doodle.com/poll/xaga5guyvmhs2u23

The survey will be sent to each family via Ping today, and we ask that you complete the survey as soon as possible, and by Friday 17th July at the latest.

Once we know where access to technology may be difficult, then we will be able to tailor our support accordingly, endeavouring to ensure that all children have equal access to the home learning we offer.

Many thanks

Cath McLoughlin
 Deputy Headteacher

