



Monday 20th April 2020

Dear Parent and Carers,

School closure update and new arrangements for home learning

Firstly, and most importantly, I hope that everyone continues to be safe and well. I hope that you had some opportunity to enjoy the good weather over the Easter holidays, and were able to make the best of the current situation that we all find ourselves in.

We have been closely following government announcements and daily advice issued from the DfE (Department for Education). As you will be aware, schools are to remain closed for the foreseeable future. Only yesterday, the Secretary of State for Education would not give a date for schools to reopen until scientific evidence shows that it is safe to do so.

This is with the exception of a small number of children who remain eligible to attend school under government guidelines. Most children are required to continue their learning at home. I am delighted by the high response from parents who have signed up to our ClassDojo online learning platform. This is providing daily contact for children with their class teacher and supporting parents at home. For parents who do not have online access, we are currently looking at how we can support you and school will make contact directly. Moving forward, it will not be possible to provide further paper packs of work, so it is essential that all children have access to online learning.

We have listened to feedback from parents and carers about what they find most and least helpful from school. We all appreciate home learning can sometimes be tricky, especially if parents are juggling working from home alongside being home educators! Therefore, in future, our daily lessons will be available online from the Oak National Academy.

Oak National Academy

In his announcement yesterday, the Secretary of State also announced the creation of the Oak National Academy.

The Oak National Academy is a new collection of high-quality lessons and online resources. Backed by the government, it has been created in response to the coronavirus lockdown.

Online learning covers a range of subjects, including maths, English, history, geography and science. All lessons are designed so your child can follow a structured sequence of learning. New lessons and resources will be provided each week which match National Curriculum expectations. Each Oak National Academy lesson will be approximately an hour long, with elements such as a quiz, a video explanation from the teacher and an independent activity. There are 3 lessons each day to complete. A daily maths and English lesson and a foundation subject, such as history or geography.

Lessons can be accessed by this link:

<https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom>



Please see the parent guidance information attached to access the schedule with the correct lesson material for your child.

English

A daily English lesson can be found in the schedule. Class teachers will speak to individual parents, whose children may need to access a different year group's curriculum. This will ensure that all English learning is tailored to the needs of all individual children.

Each lesson will consist of a video attached to slides teaching a sequence of lessons. Lessons will come with a variety of reading, spelling and writing tasks. Children are asked to watch the video and join in with the lesson with pencil and paper. Sometimes answers to questions or activities might be provided within the teaching sequence video so that your child can see how successful they have been straight away.

Sometimes, children will be expected to post evidence of their work onto the portfolio page of the ClassDojo platform. A photograph or video will be the best and easiest way to do this. This ensures teachers can monitor the progress of all children and provide immediate feedback to daily learning. Please check the class story on ClassDojo daily which will inform your child if there is learning that must be posted online that day.

We would also like to encourage your child to still log in to the accelerated reader programme and complete the quizzes online. If your child has lost their login, please contact their teacher on Dojo messenger to have a reminder sent or if you have any questions regarding the online resources.

Maths

Starting from this week, we are going to use a whole school approach for the home-learning of Mathematics, using the resources produced by Andrell Education and The Oak National Academy.

Andrell Education

The children will begin their Maths by completing one of the Andrell Education activities – Beat That, CLIC, SAFE, WRH (White Rose Hub) Problem of the day – just as they would if they were in school. Each morning, your child's class teacher will post a mental maths activity. The children are familiar with these tasks, as they usually complete them every morning in school. Each task should take approximately 10 minutes to complete. The aim is for the children to work as quickly as possible, applying their mental calculation skills. For some questions, they may need to support their thinking with a written calculation strategy. The answers for these tasks will be posted, daily, by your child's class teacher so that you can mark them together at home. Simply click on the link that will be sent to you, daily, to access these activities.

The Oak National Academy

The Oak National Academy, daily maths lesson should take the children between 40 and 60 minutes to complete, depending of their ability. Class teachers will talk to individual parents, whose children may need to access a different year group's curriculum, this ensures that all maths learning is tailored



to the needs of all individual children. The Academy has prepared a series of maths lessons for each year group. Every lesson comes with a pre learning quiz, a teaching video and resource activity and a post learning quiz. Again, the answers are provided within the teaching sequence, so that your child can see how successful they have been, without waiting for answers to be posted. Simply follow the guidance sheet attached to access these resources.

Children are expected to post evidence of their work onto the Dojo portfolio page. A photograph is the best and easiest way to do this. This way teachers can monitor the progress of all children and provide immediate feedback to daily learning. As always, we will be on hand to support you every step of the way!

As always, thank you for your continued support during these more extraordinary and unprecedented times. We believe this new resource will better support you and your child to continue their learning journey at home until we can all return back together again in school. Something which we all look forward to, as soon as is safely possible.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. A. Jones'.

Mr J A Jones

HEADTEACHER