



Beaupré

COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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January Lockdown Newsletter 1

8th January 2021

Happy New Year!

This is not the way we were hoping to wish you and the children a Happy New Year, as we would have loved to have done so in person, however needs must!

School is now back, although very different for us all. Staff are in school supporting those children attending alongside providing lessons, assignments and responding to questions and marking from those children at home. Teachers are working flat out and I can't thank them enough for all the hard work and commitment that they are showing to ensure your children get the best possible education in such difficult circumstances.

Thank you to all of you who have managed to get up and running with the remote learning at home, we know this has not been easy for some and we are still here to help any families who are still struggling. We have had a fantastic turn out to the live lessons and participation to the 'TEAMS' assignments and online learning. So far nearly all children are either attending remotely, or are one of the critical worker children in school. – Well done to you all and your children.

Hoping you all have a restful weekend away from home learning!

Mrs Munday

COVID—The Current Situation

Although we have children in school, I would like to reiterate that the safety of your children, your families and the staff and their families is paramount.

Cases nationally and locally continue to rise. The Government wanted to keep all schools open due to the importance of education for children and closing schools was always their very last resort. The quick turn around on the Government's decision to close schools on Monday at 8pm highlighted how serious the situation is. You will have heard on the news that the new strain is far more contagious and spreading faster. There were over 1000 deaths within 24hrs this week. The pressure really is on the NHS and hospitals to cope. This figure is above the number of deaths at the peak of the epidemic back in April 2020. This morning, the news reported that we are yet to see the implications of Christmas and expect to see this around January 18th.

It is therefore essential for us all to play our part in helping to reduce the spread, save lives and allow the NHS to help those who contract the virus.

Please therefore continue to abide by Government advice to stay at home and only leave your home for exercise, essential work or for food supplies.



Remote Education Expectations

The staff are providing a very comprehensive teaching programme to all year groups daily via 'TEAMS' so please continue with the excellent work you have started. I am sure it will get easier for us all as we progress.

As we move forward we are tweaking this provision and amending as needed to make it work efficiently. Some changes and expectations are laid out below:

Each day, work will be provided which will consist of assignments and virtual lessons.

Each days work will be uploaded in the morning, ready for 9am.

We have requested all work (unless alternative arrangements have been agreed with the class teacher), to be submitted by 3.30. We would request that if you are able to upload work throughout the day, this would be greatly appreciated as it will allow teachers and TAs time to mark and respond throughout the day.

Work will not be responded to after 6pm.

The ability for uploading work for a week will close on a Sunday evening ready for teachers to start a new week on Monday. Please be aware that this will not be marked until the following week.

Attached to this newsletter is the protocols for children and parents joining 'TEAMS' meetings from home.



Parent Support for 'TEAMS'

As we arrive together at the end of the first week of Remote Learning and we are all starting to get our heads around the technology whilst finding our way into new routines, we are looking at the ways in which we can continue to work with you to deliver the best learning opportunities for your children that we can in these challenging times. We know that adapting to this way of working can be stressful at times so class teachers would like to invite parents to join a class Teams call to share ideas about how things are going and discuss what is working well so that we can all learn from the positive ideas. We hope that it will also help staff to understand some of the challenges that you may be facing a little better, and there may be classroom hints or tips that we can suggest.

We know that this experience is different for everybody and that no two situations are the same. We are hoping that by sharing our thoughts and experiences we may be able to help each other out and make it a little bit easier for everyone.

Invitations will shortly be sent out via your child's Teams account and we hope that you will feel able to attend.



ICT Equipment

If you are struggling with accessing remote learning, please let us know and we will endeavour to help you.

You may or may not be aware that you can access the home learning via X-box or PlayStation and this may be a solution for some. I have attached to the newsletter a method of using an Xbox or Play Station to access the learning platforms.



Learning During Lockdown

There are two different ways that education is being delivered, via teams and via teaching in school to those Critical Worker children.



Those children in school are receiving the same education and assignments as those at home. For the teaching staff in particular this is a tough ask because this means that they are teaching a class of children (although smaller numbers) as well as teaching the rest of the class at home. This means that as they are teaching in school, they cannot always immediately respond to queries which come through during the day, although they will try their best. To help the teachers, teaching assistants will be used as well to answer any queries or mark the learning under the direction of the teacher where appropriate.

If you do have a query about your child/ren's progress, access to ICT or have a query over the content of remote learning, please let us know and we will be happy to discuss it with you. I have asked the staff to only respond between 8am and 6pm, for their own wellbeing and as they have lives and family outside of school too!

We will get back to you as soon as we can.

World Religion Day

Next Friday, 15th January, Beaupre will be celebrating World Religion day. Each class has been allocated a religion, which the teachers will share with you via the days assignments on Teams. We are not expecting parents to purchase any resources to support the learning, however, felt this was an ideal opportunity to immerse the children in developing their understanding of cultures and religions around the world, so I would recommend perhaps putting some card board boxes to one side, sustainable items, sticks or leaves, should they be needed.



Any photographs you are able to take of the children engaged in their learning and send to your individual class email would be much appreciated.

Have a wonderful day and I cannot wait to see all the wonderful learning taking place,

Mrs Riley

Free School Meal Entitlement and Provision

We understand that families continue to live in uncertain times and many are facing changes to their financial circumstances as a result.

If you have not previously applied for Free School Meals, or your name has recently changed and you now feel you may be eligible, please visit: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals to see if you meet the criteria and to apply online. If you have any queries in relation to free school meals entitlement please contact the Education Welfare Benefits Team on ewb.fsm@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or telephone them on 01223 703200

If you are currently in receipt of free school meals and now have your children to educate at home, we will be providing weekly food boxes. You will have received an email with regard to this. If you have not received this email, please get in contact with the school.

PS4

1. Turn on PS4
2. Use your controller to scroll to the far right of the bar with games to *Library*
3. Select *Library* application
4. Within the library use the search bar to type in *Internet*
5. Select the *Internet Browser* app
6. Start Internet Browser and press the triangle button on the controller to search
7. Once on the internet, type in the search box *Google Classroom* and select the first link that comes up:
Classroom: manage teaching and learning Google for Education - link below'
<https://edu.google.com/products/classroom>
8. Select *Go to Classroom*. Then log in using student email and password.



XBOX

1. Go to Home Menu
2. Select *My Games and Apps*
3. Scroll down to Apps
4. Go to *Microsoft Edge* application
5. Type in a search for Google Classroom
6. Select *Go to Classroom*
7. You will need to log in using your student email address and password.

PIC•COLLAGE

Well-being

We shared this during the first lockdown. Well-being and mental health is very important. We know that this is a difficult time for you and your children and we want to support you as best we can. Please see links below which might help you and your children through this difficult time.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing>

Some things you can do to help with your well-being:

With many parents worried over children missing education while the schools are closed, please be mindful of the need to focus on your child's mental health too.

5 steps to positive mental wellbeing

1 Connect

Ensure children stay connected with their friends. Whether that's an hour a day on social media, a gaming platform, or on the telephone - help them stay connected with friends or family.



2 Be active

Put an hour aside a day for physical activity. If it's dry go outside and have a kick-about. Encourage exercise into your daily routine. Eat well and drink lots of water.



3 Take notice

Be present. Chat to your children about their feelings and emotions. There's a lot of uncertainty going on around the world. Talk about those, but keep perspective and take information from reliable sources - government and public health, not social media and rumours.



4 Keep learning

You've got time with the children - learn a new hobby, start learning a new instrument, read together, read alone, bake - anything to help stimulate the brain. Do challenges.

5 Give

Encourage kindness and encourage children to share - give time at the end of each day to reflect and learn the art of appreciation and gratitude. Get the kids to think about things that people have done that have been nice and be thankful of that.



E-Safety

With so many people accessing and using the internet during these times, it is important that children are using the internet safely. Here is a poster for you to share with your children to remind them of how to stay safe online.

S

SHARE
RESPONSIBLY

We all love to share photographs, fun things we're doing and much more.

Be careful what you share and always ask permission if somebody else is in the photo or video.

M

MANAGE
your PRIVACY

If you're using apps that can communicate with others, turn on privacy.

Only let people you really know follow you unless you've asked permission from your parents.

A

ASK
for HELP

Don't ever be worried about asking for help from someone you trust.

You will NOT be judged.

R

RESPECT
OTHERS

Be kind.

Other people may have different opinions from you.

That's okay, but if they become abusive, take screenshots, block and report and tell an adult.

T

THINK
CRITICALLY

TRUST
your INSTINCT

Is it true?
Does that person really know me?
Has that really happened?

Always question!

If anything worries you, or if you need help with something, speak to:

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e-safety adviser
www.esafety-adviser.com



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Microsoft Teams sessions:

Important disclaimer: By accessing the TEAMS meeting, you are also agreeing to the terms of use below:

Information for parents

Please be aware that the following apply to live sessions:

- An adult must oversee their child/ren on the TEAMS meeting
- Switch the settings to have microphones off when joining a session unless the teacher asks for it to be otherwise
- Camera functionality should be on
- Sessions are **NOT** to be recorded or photographed by parents or pupils.
- During sessions, screen shots using the device or other devices are strictly **NOT** allowed
- The host (Teacher) is in control of who can control the screen
- Be conscious of background environments and others in the room
- Staff, pupils and anybody visible to the screen will wear suitable clothing
- Any device used should be in an appropriate area, for example; at a table, and where possible, be against a neutral background
- Language must be professional and appropriate, including any family members in the background
- Please note if you are late for the session, you can still join
- Staff have the right to remove a child if they are behaving inappropriately in a lesson
- Live lessons will be recorded so that they can be accessed for up to a maximum of 20 days

Helpful tips for pupils' success using Microsoft Teams:

- Make sure you are muted when not talking, unless you are asked otherwise by your class teacher
- Respect others – Think about what you are going to say/write
- Ask questions using chat function or put your hand up using the hand feature if wanting to ask a question live. Please be patient on a response from your teacher / TA
- Focus on what is being taught or said, rather than distracting others
- Make sure the adult you see is the person you know from school
- Do **NOT** mute anyone other than yourself. Muting others is not appropriate
- Do **NOT** remove anyone other than yourself. Removing others is not appropriate

Any inappropriate behaviour or disregard for these rules will be reported to Mrs Munday