

19th March 2020

Dear Parents

I have delayed sending out this communiqué as I was hoping for further clarification from the Department for Education.

School will re-open on Monday for only children of parents who have key jobs which will be listed on the government site at some point today. **Please fill in the attached key worker questionnaire as a matter of urgency and return to school by 9am tomorrow, Friday 20th March .**

From Monday, school will be open from 8:00am to 5:30pm which will mean parents (who have been listed as **key workers** by the government) needing wrap-around-care will be able to receive it. This will not be provided by Kestrel staff but by our teachers and teaching assistants. Below is the staff rota so you know who is teaching in school on a specific day. On the days when staff are not teaching, they will be working from home so as to reduce the risk level of infection.

Staff rota

| Staff | Day and time |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Mrs Malir, Mrs Williamson, Mr Norris (SLT) | Monday 8:00am to 5:30pm |
| Mrs Swinton, Mrs Dereix, Mrs Hyde (SLT) | Tuesday 8:00am to 5:30pm |
| Mr McGuire, Miss Ward, Mrs Hyde (SLT) | Wednesday 8:00am to 5:30pm |
| Mrs Gallagher and Mrs Oliver (SLT) | Thursday 8:00am to 5:30pm |
| Mrs Metcalfe, Mrs Dowling and Mr Norris (SLT) | Friday 8:00am to 5:30pm |

Teaching activities

For the children not attending school we have put together a programme of activities. These will mainly be online and we will utilise our commercial bought IT programs: *Purple Mash* and *Century*. Handwriting books for Classes 1 and 2 will be sent home but I have decided not to send other pupil exercise books home so as to reduce the transfer of the virus and also to stop this years' classwork from going missing. Each child has a login for Purple Mash which has been sent home. Younger children may need help to login but should then be able to navigate the program themselves as they have used it regularly in lessons.

Class 1 & 2

Handwriting – copy the letters/words from the sheet into handwriting books.

Reading – school reading books will be sent home but please read any books you have at home with/to your child over the period that they are off. This can include comics, fiction and non-fiction books.

Phonics – www.phonicsplay.co.uk – this is the site we use in school for phonics games. There is now free access to the site using the username and password which are displayed on the homepage of the website. Username: march20 Password: home.

Purple Mash – www.purplemash.com - use your child's username and password to log into the site. Various work will be set as a '2Do' by the class teacher. See separate sheet for the user guide. Children can also use Purple Mash at their own leisure as it has activities for all subject areas.

Open task/Research – our Summer Term topic is 'Intrepid Explorers'. We will be investigating the lives of Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus. Children can research and present in their own way any facts that they find.

Can any Reception parents please upload a selection of photographs/activities of any work your child has done to Tapestry.

Class 3

Reading – read every day. Family book club – recommend a book you have read to a member of your family and explain why they should read it. In addition to this, a Bloom's taxonomy sheet will be provided. Answer one question per day on the book of your choice.

Spelling – practise the Year 3 and 4 word mat provided writing the words within sentences.

Times Tables Rockstars - <https://ttrockstars.com/> - children are aware of their usernames and passwords.

Topic – Mrs Dereix has created a research sheet with questions around the Class 3 topic of 'Animals and Humans'. Children are to research and create a project booklet answering the questions provided.

Class 3 & 4

Century Tech - <https://www.century.tech/> - Classes 3 & 4 are in a 'fortunate' position in this scenario as all the children are competent navigating the Century Tech learning tool. Century was bought in this year and is an invaluable tool for learning. Parents also benefit because they get to see what their children are good at and what they need to work on. The website uses Artificial Intelligence to create a bespoke pathway so children are supported individually with their teaching and learning. The program covers Maths, Science, English Reading and SPaG (Spelling, punctuation and grammar) and will give the children a way to continue their education in line with the National Curriculum guidelines.

Class 4

The Purple Mash program - www.purplemash.com - is also available for children to provide extra support in learning, covering all subjects; providing opportunities for extended writing under a topic they are engaged with. Under the 'Topics' heading they can select work which they would like to cover to further their own general knowledge, whilst also creating exciting opportunities for writing, Art, Research and continuing their Historical and Geographical understanding.

All children are aware of their username and passwords and have the opportunity to fulfil the year's learning through following these programs.

SATs papers are available online, along with marking guidance and answer sheets. I believe it valuable for children to continue to practise completing these and any misconceptions can be developed through the Century program, where video tutorials are available.

FOR ALL CLASSES

Twinkl has a variety of work for all subject areas which can be printed off if you feel you need extra work. The main areas we would say to focus on would be reading comprehensions/guided reading and maths mats specific to year groups.

Useful websites:

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/> - free log on

<https://www.phonicsbloom.com/>

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> - username – march20 password – home

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk>

<https://www.ictgames.com/>

<https://www.primarygames.co.uk>

All set work will be sent home with your child tomorrow.

Yours sincerely

Mr D. Norris B.A (Hons) QTS