

Wootton-by-Woodstock CE Primary School

Church Street
Wootton
Woodstock
Oxford
OX20 1DH

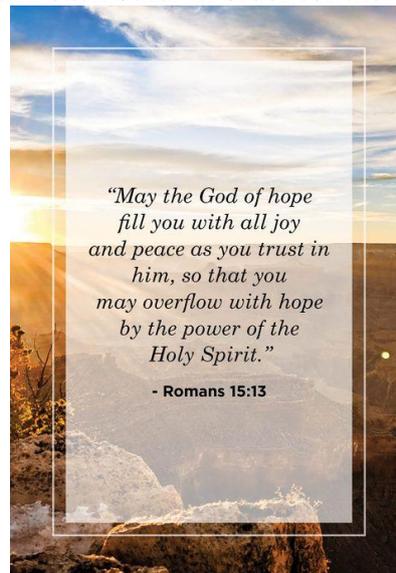
Tel/Fax: 01993 811520
office.3657@wootton-woodstock.oxon.sch.uk

Wednesday 6th January 2021

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent,

I hope that you have all enjoyed wonderful Christmas and New Year celebrations and are ready to face whatever 2021 may bring! The school staff would like to wish you all a brave new year as we head forward into another wave of the Covid crisis. Life is certainly not without its challenges at the moment. This term, whilst we can't be together to enjoy collective worship, we will be reflecting on new beginnings and the Hope that they bring; very pertinent as the Covid vaccination process begins to roll out in earnest, and Trust; that which we must all have in each other in order for the world to function.



CORONAVIRUS

You are, of course, aware of the Covid_19 developments that have occurred over the Christmas period. In summary, there is a new strain of the virus which appears to be more transmissible than the first, although, believed to be no more dangerous to the individual. In response to the latest advice all schools are closed until, at least, 15th February except for vulnerable children and those of keyworkers. At Wootton, in further effort to prevent the spread, we have tweaked the risk assessment as a response to the new developments.

This may be viewed on the school website [Wootton-by-Woodstock Primary - Coronavirus \(COVID 19\) Information \(wootton-woodstock.oxon.sch.uk\)](https://www.wootton-woodstock.oxon.sch.uk)

Briefly:

- Children may find that staff members are wearing visors and/or face masks more frequently than they did previously.

- All meetings with parents will take place by telephone, email or video call. Please note that teaching staff will no longer hold conversations at the gate. TAF and EHCP meetings will also be held by video call.
- Within school, staff will be re-allocating duties amongst themselves so that staff vulnerabilities are further protected.

We will revert to some systems that we used early in Lockdown 1:

- School will be open to children of key workers who absolutely have to be in school.
- School will be open to children who are deemed 'vulnerable'
- Teaching staff will operate a rota in order to ensure that appropriate cover is available whilst minimising contact with as many households as possible
- All pupils must remain at least 1 metre apart at all times, even when in the playground. Children are not required to wear face masks in primary schools at this point.

We expect further guidance to reach us soon and will keep you informed of any further changes.

CURRICULUM

This term the children are focussing on Inside Out or Outside In? as a topic. This will include looking at the human body, design and technology projects and thinking about how we feel inside ourselves. It is a varied topic to help children understand more about themselves.

REMOTE LEARNING

If you are a parent of a child who is working at home then you are asked to ensure that your child has access to Google Classroom for the latest plans, timetables and learning activities. Activities will be released daily. Please note that:

- The expectation stipulated by the government is that primary pupils undertake at least 3 hours of learning per day. This must include work in all subject areas that are set by the teaching staff. Note that English and maths should each be allocated at least an hour daily and work is expected to be of similar quality to that produced in the classroom taking into account presentation, effort, depth of study and quantity. Other subjects may require various amounts of time spending on them. A 30 minute (at least) session of physical exercise is recommended daily.
- Learning provided on Google Classroom for home learners is identical to the core learning taking place in school for vulnerable and key worker pupils.
- Remote learners will be monitored by teaching staff and are expected to engage in online lessons and conference calls when invited to do so. Most work is expected to be submitted electronically and must be submitted by the deadline given. Teaching staff will mark work and give feedback electronically. Pupils will need to read and respond to feedback as if they were in class.
- If physical work is required such as for art or technology projects then remote learners must hand it in each week to enable feedback from teaching staff.
- Children will be provided with a pack of basic equipment: pencils, glue, scissors and so on to be used at home. Please keep these in the plastic wallet provided so that they are always available. They will also be provided with a maths book, English book, topic book, handwriting book and a selection of paper and reading books. **Packs need to be collected from school for remote learners on Monday 11th January from 11am to 1pm, when collecting your pack please ensure you adhere to social distancing practices.**
- The evaluation form previously used will be reintroduced and assigned as a weekly task. Pupils should make comments about their approach to the work and parents are asked to make a comment to the teacher if they so wish.
- If a pupil is found not to be engaging in online sessions and not submitting the work as expected then parents will be contacted.

Arrangements for Submitting Physical Work and Collecting Resources

Any work or other items which you wish to return to school should be placed in a plastic bag and deposited in the plastic box by the school gate on a Monday, between 11am to 1pm. At the same time you may collect any equipment left out for you with your name on, also contained in a plastic bag. Mrs Withey will organise

the arrangements for such exchanges of items. Work received will be quarantined for three days before being responded to by teaching staff.

Technology Issues

Should you have any difficulties with access to appropriate electronic devices for learning, problems with printing or anything else then please contact the school office for support and we will do our best to help.

SCHOOL LEARNERS

Parents are requested to contact the school by mid-day on Fridays to confirm which days children will be in school the following week. This will enable teaching staff to prepare appropriately. All children present in school are requested to wear school uniform as they would normally do. Please forewarn your child that the teachers will not be their usual teacher every day. Whilst it is subject to change, the baseline fortnightly rota for teaching is as follows:

| Week 1 (current week) | Week 2 |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Mrs Palmer 2 days and Mrs Arneil 3 days | Ms Brown 4 days and Mrs Palmer 1 day |
| Mrs Clemons full time | Mrs Cambrey full time |
| Mrs Bake 3 days | Mrs Bake 3 days |
| Mrs Lawrence remote learning 2 days | Mrs Lawrence remote learning 2 days |

Staggered entry will, again, be operational and Mrs Withey will contact you all with new times for entry and exit.

PTIs

Parent Teacher Interviews will take place in the week beginning 1st March, after half term. Please look out for booking details nearer the time. Thank you.

ADMISSIONS

Note that the closing date for applications to reception classes for September 2020 is 15th January 2021. Should you have no young children of your own you may wish to inform friends and neighbours.

With all good wishes for the next few months,



Valerie Lucas
Head Teacher