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Violet Class Newsletter – Spring Term 2020 – Term 3

Dear Parents /Carers,

This is certainly not the term we were expecting and I am so sorry that we can't all be in school learning together. Already I am looking forward to that time and seeing all the children again as the classroom isn't the same. I know all the children will try their best to do what they can in these difficult times and that is all I can ask.

Google Classroom

Obviously the lockdown means that the way the children access their learning will be very different. My intention is that, where ever possible, the children in school and those at home will be doing the same work. At the beginning of each week I will post a weekly overview so you can see what is coming up and how the activities are organised. Then, on a daily basis, I will post all the links needed for that day's learning. There will be Maths and English each day with additional arithmetic, reading, and SPaG activities along with our topic lessons.

Returning the work can be a challenge but I hope to make it similar to how homework has worked since September. Don't forget Year 6 are amazing at using Google Classroom already and can usually figure things out. At the end of each day, there is a Google form to complete to where the children can show what learning they have done and, more importantly, how they feel they got on with their learning. I am trying to find a system that works for as many people as possible so please encourage your child to complete this as a minimum so I can see what they have been able to do that day.

Last week we became the guinea pigs to see if we could get live lessons to work and I was pleased that we were successful and also that some many of the children joined us. Now we demonstrated that it is possible with our system, we are working on ensuring the safety of all involved. This includes gaining permissions from everyone and making sure our live learning policy is rigorous. Please bear with us! Until then, I am recording the English lessons and White Rose has videos for all Maths lessons.

If you are struggling to access Google Classroom via a computer, it is also accessible through a tablet, phone, Xbox or Playstation. For the latter two, you need to go to the console's browser, go to Google and then log on to Google Classroom. Google Classroom is proving to be a platform accessed through many different ways! In believe school has sent out instructions for this on the latest newsletter – be warned videos that school records may not work on these platforms.

I encourage the children to stay in contact via Google Classroom to ask questions, comment about their learning or to get feedback. I will respond to all the posts, I can't promise it is will be an immediate response, as I am teaching, but I will get back to you or your child. I will also be looking at any work handed in and we are creating a display in our corridor so we can share and recognise all the hard work going on at home.

SATs

During the prime minister's lockdown speech, he stated that summer exams would not go ahead. It wasn't until later in the week that it was confirmed that this year's SATs have been cancelled. Talking to the children in school, they are just really disappointed that they won't be getting the chance to go to breakfast club during SATs week! I should point out that the government's guidance also recommended that schools use a previous year's paper to assess the

children in the summer – nothing has been decided at this point because we have more pressing concerns at the moment.

A number of you expressed the wish to order the SATs books after missing out last term and have also repeated this request as you feel your child could benefit from the additional practice they offer. As such I am happy for school to put in another order this term if you wish to purchase these books.

The requests can be made via Parent Pay from Thursday 14th January and will close Friday 22nd January. We will be in touch as soon as the books arrive. There is no requirement to buy these books, it is entirely your choice.

SATs Buster Bundles These cover the main themes in the KS2 SATs:
Maths: Mental Maths, Number, Shape, Space and Data.
English: Spelling, Grammar, Punctuation
English: Reading – Fiction, Non Fiction and Poetry

Key Stage Two

CGP KS2 Maths SATs Buster Bundle	Price £5.00 each
CGP KS2 English SATs Buster Bundle – Reading	Price £5.00 each
KS2 Maths and English 10 Minute Tests – SATs Buster Book Bundle	Price £5.00 each
CGP KS2 Maths SATs Revision Question Cards	Price £3.50 each

PE

Last term all of you were given a login for REAL PE – please use this and explore the activities they offer.

BBC

The BBC have announced that every day they will have 3 hours of programmes aimed at primary school children which may be worth looking at. I will post the weekly timetable alongside the home learning weekly overview.

The primary programmes, which will be broadcast on CBBC from 09:00 every day, will include BBC Live Lessons and BBC Bitesize Daily as well as Our School, Celebrity Supply Teacher, Horrible Histories and Operation Ouch.

Additionally there are other websites to get activities, games or videos which may be of use or interest your child and they are listed below.

All Subjects:

- <https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage/key-stage-2>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/this-terms-topics>

Maths:

- <https://myminimaths.co.uk/year-6-mini-maths/>
- <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/kids-activities/fun-maths-games-and-activities/>

English:

- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/reading>
- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>
- <https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-year/year-6/subjects/english-grammar>
- https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/?view=image&query=&type=book&age_group=Age+9-11&level=&level_select=&book_type=&series=

Homework

I am pretty sure that your child won't be particularly enthusiastic about doing homework in this current climate so I am not going to set weekly Maths and English tasks. Instead I will post the termly project, as it may give your child a child an extended project they can work on.

If you have any questions, queries or want some support in any way, please feel free to send an email or comment on Google Classroom. Please take care of yourselves, stay safe and remain positive.

Kind Regards,
Miss C Mountford