



Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Christ Church children and parents,

Information about our home learning plans

We are all really disappointed that we won't be seeing you in school over the next few weeks but we don't want you to lose touch with us or to stop learning, of course!

This letter sets out how we are going to help children to learn at home over the next few weeks and how we are going to help parents to help their children with their learning. We know that parents (and other carers) will be helping out with learning a lot in the next few weeks and we want to make this as easy as we can. Thank you very much in advance to parents and carers for all their help and support.

There are three main aims of the way we have set up our home learning at Christ Church:

- to keep in regular contact with all our children and families
- to keep children learning and thinking and to support parents/carers to help with this at home
- to provide structure, routine and daily tasks for children while they are at home

These are our plans to keep all children learning. Please read this information carefully so that you know what we are planning to do:

- Class teachers will set a daily programme of work for each class. We will try to provide clear instructions about each task and activity and provide all the information or links that children and parents need.
- The programme of work will be sent to parents via email at around 9.30am each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. It will be split into tasks to be completed each day. We have set up class email addresses to use for this purpose. E.g. year1@cchurchnw3.camden.sch.uk
- Each programme of work will also include a written message from the class teacher – so that children and teachers will still be in touch. You may also receive periodic messages from other members of staff in order to keep in touch with them, too.
- We think a daily programme is important, rather than setting tasks for a longer period, so that children have tasks to do each day to keep them busy and thinking.
- Each class from Year 2 to Year 6 will be set four daily tasks to do. Reception and Year 1 will be set three daily tasks. (This is in line with our usual number of lessons in school each day.) Many of the tasks will have a set time limit for them to ensure children spend about the right amount of time on learning each day – not too little and not too long, either!
- On most days there will be an English task and a Maths task to do – we will often be directing children to a particular activity or sheet in the packs we have sent home. Please don't let your child go further ahead in these packs; we have put them together in a particular order and to last several weeks.
- On most days one of the tasks will be an online task and we will direct children and parents to a specific website to use.
- On most days one of the tasks will be a practical task – this could include making, drawing or building something or even helping with the cooking. There will be something to write down or draw about this task at the end, too.
- At least one of the tasks over the two days will need to be sent back in to your teacher via the class email address. You could do this by sending a clear photo or, in some cases, by attaching the document the child has completed. Thank you in advance to parents for their help with this.
- Teachers will provide feedback on this task on one of the following days – this might be feedback to the whole class or, in many cases, individual feedback to each child about how they can improve. We may then ask children to edit and improve their piece of work using this feedback.

- There will also be ongoing reading, spellings and times tables/number facts practice to do and we will be giving children specific strategies to use or tasks to do for this and asking children to record the practice and reading they do.
 - Specialist teachers will be communicating with class teachers and contributing to the tasks which are set each day – you may get music, PE or French tasks, too!
 - We have given every child exercise books to record lots of the work they do at home over this period. Children, please keep these books neat and tidy, just like your ones at school:
 - write the date and Learning Intention/Title as instructed by your teachers
 - use pencil (or pen if you have a pen licence) for writing
 - use your neatest handwriting
 - use pencil for all maths work and drawing
 - stick any extra sheets in neatly
 - if you are colouring try to use coloured pencil rather than pens
- We will ask every child to bring this book back in to share when school reopens, so take pride in it, please!
- We know that not every family has access to the same technology at home so we will try to keep things as simple as possible. Thank you to parents who will need to give their children supervised access to their own phones in order to access the daily instructions or some of the online tasks we set. We do know, however, that every family receives our emails from school and can access our website, too. We know that not every family has a printer at home so we will not set tasks that require things to be printed out. If you do have a printer, feel free to use it to print out tasks and information if you find it useful, though.
 - If children are unwell then, of course, just as if school were open, they need to be resting and getting better rather than working that day. Please do let us know, though, so we don't chase you up to return anything.
 - In the event of staff illness, we may need to change or reduce the tasks we set or the feedback we can give. We will let you know if this is the case; please bear with us.
 - Please bear in mind that our learning tasks will not fill up your child's entire day and they are not intended to. Lessons and learning activities do not fill an entire day at school by the time we have fitted in playtimes, lunchtime, assembly and all the other things we do!
 - There are lots and lots of additional online and paper-based resources that parents can use to support their children's learning and supplement what we are setting from school. Feel free to use and complete these too, but please get the daily school tasks finished first! We have also added a list of useful, general websites to our school website under the parent menu on the school website at www.christchurchschool.co.uk. Activities on these websites may also help to keep children learning and busy!

This situation is completely new to staff members as well, so we might work out better and different ways of doing things over the next few weeks and we will let you know if there are any changes to how we are helping children keep learning.

The first programme of tasks will be sent to all parent email addresses at around 9.30 on Monday 23rd March.

With many, many thanks to parents for your support with children's learning over the next few weeks and to children for their hard work at home.

With best wishes,

Mrs Forsdyke
Head teacher