



# Broadwindsor Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

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“Learning and growing together”

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Headteacher: Mr Philip Smith

11.1.21

Dear Parents and Carers,

How are you all? I must admit last week was a challenge and not the start we were hoping for the new year. Anyway, Happy New Year to all our learning community and hoping for brighter days on the horizon in 2021. Most importantly we must say a big well done to us all for adapting so quickly to our new situations last week. Hopefully you are getting into a routine that works for you at home with your child's learning. Please do contact us if you are having any difficulties with approaching the home-learning, using the class email addresses.

Hope you are getting on well with the virtual check in each morning? We seem to have come a long way from our first meetings last Wednesday and most pupils are now able to take part and it is lovely to see how you are all doing. If you are having problems accessing TEAMS contact the school and we can get Mr Harris to get in touch with you and see if he can solve your problems.

These sessions enable us to keep in contact with you and set pupils up ready for their learning that day. Asking questions at that time or posting queries afterwards at the Teams chat will enable pupils to get on more smoothly. Hopefully the older the pupils are, the more they will be able to navigate the remote learning independently. Please remember to join the meeting with microphone muted so the sessions flow well and we don't get too much of that dreaded feedback in the audio!



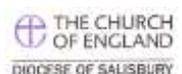
Please also follow these important safeguarding points:

- Be appropriately dressed
- Join sessions in a suitable public part of your home.
- Have an adult close by and especially when trying to join a meeting
- Report any concerns to Safeguarding leaders via [office@broadwindsor.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@broadwindsor.dorset.sch.uk)

Our remote learning programmes uploaded to Microsoft TEAMS provides English and Maths lessons daily. There is also a range of wider curriculum areas relating to the topics the children should be studying according to our long term curriculum plan such as History, RE and Science.



As a school our remote learning will meet the 3 hours of learning required by Key Stage 1 pupils and 4 hours required for Key Stage 2 by the Department for Education guidance. You can view our remote learning policy on our website. Our offer is evolving all the time as everyone becomes more confident with the technology.



You may have seen my New Year message posted on TEAMS last Friday where I talked about new year reflections and we will post assemblies from the Beaminster Ministry each week.

Don't forget to keep active too and make the most of your chance to participate in daily exercise as a family. Be good to yourself, as much learning can occur with your child from talking with each other on a walk in your local area. And if running is something your child likes to do, we will be shortly sending you the opportunity for older pupils to take part in the virtual cross country as our usual cross country events cannot take place.



As in the previous school closure, we appreciate that every household is coming to this in different ways with some of you having multiple siblings, all trying to use the same equipment, no printer ink and juggling work - just some of the things you are facing. Do get in touch if you are struggling - we are here to help.



### Online resources

You might remember the school had access to online books last year called 'myOn' books. The school has invested in this resource and pupils will soon be able to access it. All the books are connected to AR quizzes so the children can be supporting their comprehension skills. We will send you more details once we have had the access codes.

Once again the BBC are providing daily lessons on their platforms and this time they are actually live on BBC2 each morning and then are available on BBC iPlayer. These maybe particularly useful for households where you are struggling for devices, so children can watch these programmes on the television.

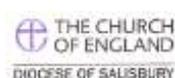
### [Home learning with the BBC in January 2021 - BBC Bitesize](#)

We will continue to use Oak National Academy to support different curriculum areas in our remote learning offer. The lessons on this platform include teacher-led video lessons, learning tasks and quizzes to complete. But if your child is interested in finding out about something new you can search the platform and subjects available. If you are going to dip into the odd lesson, access the lesson via the subject search and start with the first lesson in the sequence.

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/>

Along with our PHSE lessons on our TEAMS class pages, Harold the Giraffe's diary is back from today. Harold will be sharing ideas and activities to support children's mental health and wellbeing. The diary is a valuable, fun addition to Home Learning activities, particularly for younger children, though older children love Harold, too!

<https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/harolds-daily-diary>



## Taking care of yourselves

Many of the resources available in the previous lockdowns and school closure are still available. The school can help signpost any support you may need including emotional and financial support. The Dorset Council website pages are particularly useful to find help and also if you want to look at the latest Covid figures. If you need support in other ways you are more than welcome to email [office@broadwindsor.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@broadwindsor.dorset.sch.uk) and staff in school will do their best to respond and help as soon as possible.

On behalf of all the staff - well done for a great start to this term. Let's keep together and we will be stronger for it. Please keep in contact with us all and on behalf of all the staff at Broadwindsor 'Stay safe and positive'.

Phil Smith  
Headteacher

