



Broadwindsor Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

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“Learning and growing together”

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Headteacher: Mr Philip Smith

25.1.21

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are all ok? Hopefully the wintry weather at the weekend was a happy distraction from the continued lockdown conditions. We are all so proud of you with your efforts from home-learning and we appreciate every family is going through this situation in different ways. 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. Now we are in to our fourth week we would also appreciate some feedback about what is going well with remote learning so that we can continue to plan our programmes further. Again if you can communicate this via class emails that would be great.



This week's purple learning theme is 'perseverance' and was introduced in my Collective Worship which will have been sent on Parentmail earlier today. Just like last week we are asking for your nominations from home for either 'bottling success' on things which your child has done well with their remote learning or recognising when your child has shown perseverance over a piece of learning this week. You can send your nominations via the online form link (also set earlier), to be included in our praise assembly on Thursday. We did all enjoy reading your nominations last week and understand the great things you are noticing at home.

From today school staff will be taking part in Lateral flow testing twice a week to support the measures to reduce transmission of the virus in asymptomatic people in the community. These tests are carried out by school staff at home in the evening following guidance provided and results are known in around 30 minutes. Obviously the staff are a little apprehensive ahead of getting their first results but see this as a positive move. Staff who get a positive test result will need to self-isolate and also seek a laboratory test to validate the result. We will also consult with Public Health Dorset to seek their advice on which pupils will need to isolate from those who are attending school. For both those parents who children are attending school, and those parents with children remote learning, it is important to look out for Parentmails first thing in the morning so that we can communicate about bubble closures and cancellations of any live sessions. We are hoping to keep any disruption to a minimum but in such a small school some disruption is a real possibility.

Keeping Active

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. This week is the last week for you to send times in for our Virtual Cross Country event. Please time your child covering 1000 metres and email their time into the school office by Friday 29th January. Children from Year 1 – 6 are eligible to be included. Just like in our real cross country events we need to have four pupils to take part to make a team. Do also remember we sent you a link to Chance to Shine cricket coaching session on Zoom. ([Chance to Shine Live](#)). These sessions are suitable for all ages and are recorded and can be found on Youtube as well. My daughter Alice and I enjoyed taking part in last



week's session one evening last week and practised our catching skills using rolled up pairs of socks.



Online resources

The school has invested in 'myON' books, which is an online book resource and pupils can now access it. All the books are connected to AR quizzes so the children can be supporting their comprehension skills. The resource is suitable for pupils Year 1 and upwards and the child's login details to this site and other platforms we use is posted in the children's individual channel on TEAMS. The home page for myON can be accessed from [here](#).

A further reminder that 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 may be 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 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

