

Thursday 11 June 2020

Dear Parent/Carers,

**Home Learning Update**

We would like to thank you all for your support with home learning over the past weeks. We understand how hard this has been under such trying circumstances.

For the remainder of the Summer term we have adapted home learning slightly. We hope to make it a little less intense; supporting physical and emotional wellbeing and preparing our children for the next academic year.

Home learning timetables will continue to be uploaded onto the school website every Friday morning. We try to add as many practical activities as possible because we do appreciate how difficult it might be for some children to access ICT. However, as you can understand, this might not always be possible depending on the content of what needs to be taught. We will continue to use White Rose to support our Maths. There will be a series of three lessons with a video to watch. It usually begins with a ‘flashback’ to revise previous taught skills and then moves on to a new teaching point. Alongside this, there is also a worksheet that the children can complete. This can either be printed (if you have access to a printer) or the children can work directly from the screen and write their answers on the paper. It also provides the answers.

For English, we add a series of writing, reading comprehension spelling, punctuation and grammar tasks. Through using video extracts from sources such as the ‘Literacy Shed,’ we try to make the content as engaging as possible.

In addition, the timetable will include other subjects that would have formed part of our school curriculum this term.

We have decided to make next week, beginning 15th June, a themed ‘Health and Wellbeing Week’ focusing around both physical and mental health. Usually, around this time of year at school, we move away from our regular timetable for the week and deliver this in school through healthy eating chefs, run-a-mile, sports days, LAF (lifestyle and fitness) workshops and activities through other different P.E agencies. Our health and wellbeing timetable will take the form of a ‘menu‘ with a range of P.E, Art, DT, Cookery, Reading and Writing activities all centred around staying well mentally and physically. Again, children can complete as many or as few as possible and work with siblings. Because of the nature of health and wellbeing, many of the activities are practical which will help those with limited access to ICT resources.

The following week, beginning 22nd June, we aim to focus learning around transition. Teachers have made a pack that can be collected from school from Friday 19th June. This will include a letter from their next teacher, giving information about themselves and the next academic year; a sheet for the children to complete about themselves (to be returned in September); an Autumn curriculum overview, detailing what the children will be learning upon returning to school and a Summer holiday homework project, linked to their next History unit. In addition, teachers have included a blank exercise book with a Maths and Literacy task should the children wish to complete any additional work over the Summer break.

We are aware that some parents are also using their own resources to support their child's learning at home. This is absolutely fine as each family will, of course, have to make their own decisions regarding any learning that takes place at home. Also, please be assured that there are no expectations regarding timings or the quantity of work to be completed. There is no expectation to complete all the activities; we are fully aware that there will be ‘good days’ and ‘bad days’ at home and everyone’s mental health is of the utmost importance.

If you are struggling to access resources from Google Classroom, should you need them, we would be happy to print them and they could be collected from school.

Many thanks again. Please contact the school office if you have any questions or queries.

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Everyone at Blackfell Primary School sends you our very best wishes.

Chris Barrass

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