

Pilgrim Primary Academy

Headteacher: Mrs L Meek (BA Hons, PGCE)

Oxford Street, Plymouth, PL1 5BQ

Tel: 01752 225319

E-mail: contactus@ppsonline.org



1st May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope all is well for you, your children and your families. We are now well and truly into our 'lockdown' phase and although it is difficult, it is starting to feel very familiar. Today's newsletter is mainly about home learning. Here are a few updates for you:

Home Learning

Taking into account feedback from staff, some parents and children, we have decided to make some amendments to the home learning coming through Google Classroom. From this week, we are:

- Generally **reducing the amount of work posted on the Google Classrooms** and the length of time each of the activities take.
- Providing **only 4 days of formal learning for Monday through to Thursday, with Fridays now becoming more of a 'catch up' day**, to give everyone a bit of time to go back, revise and consolidate any of the week's learning. Friday will be a time for children to Check and Reflect, responding to any feedback that has come through Google Classroom.
- Friday will also now be the day that we post **more whole school community activities**, rather than any formal learning tasks. These activities will be fun, creative and something we can all access together. We also hope that some of these activities will be able to be done with everyone in the family together.

Please remember that additional learning resources, including learning websites and games, can always be found on **our school website, in our Learning Zone.**

Mrs Wootton has also suggested the following new sites to support children's reading:

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

<https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevenses/>

By making the above changes, we can ensure that we are able to cover the requirements of the curriculum whilst also giving greater flexibility within the week. The additional links on the website mean that those children who want that little bit more to do, can go to the Learning Zone to explore.



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Whole School Activities

Despite our distance from each other, we feel that it is important to continue with our whole school community projects and celebrations.

- You will have spotted a **Learner of the Week celebration** in your child's Google Classroom last week and we will continue to do this each week, to replicate our whole school Celebration Assemblies, sharing some of the great learning we have been seeing.
- At 2.00 pm every Friday we will also be coming together for **our whole school singing assembly** led by Miss Stickland. Our hope in the future is to provide a live stream to our singing assembly, so watch this space.
- Today, we have started our whole school projects with a **fantastic competition to create a Brian Pollard style piece of art, with prizes from the artist himself!** Please see the letter accompanying this Newsletter or the website for all the details.

Finally, we would like to hear your thoughts on our home learning activities, especially after the new changes. We will be sending out a **very quick survey in the coming weeks**, to hear your views. Your help with this will be greatly appreciated.

Contact with Class Teachers

Teachers will be available in the Google Classrooms during **traditional school hours (9.00am to 3.30pm)** to offer support, answer any questions or to solve any problems. Google Classrooms will remain open for when you choose to access it and any messages left outside of normal school hours, will be seen the next morning and responded to.

You can also send any questions or share any additional learning with the teachers, using their Chief animal emails, during school hours.

Facebook and Twitter

With all this fantastic learning going on, we are going to be sharing more and more through our social media feeds. If you are not already signed up to these please get on if you can:

The Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PilgrimPrimary/>

Twitter https://twitter.com/Pilgrim_School



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Please also share any photos, video clips, etc. of the activities that your children are doing at home, either those that are set by school or anything that you have been doing as a family – we would love to share them with everyone! Send your learning via teachers using the Chief Animal email or via contactus@ppsonline.org. **We will assume that any pictures and video that are sent are able to be shared on our website, Twitter or Facebook so if you don't want this to happen please state this clearly when sending them in to us.** Thank you

And finally....

Our Star Home Learners!

Well done to the following children who have been recognised over the last 2 weeks for their great learning:

Elenorth Wabik	Harrison Pitt	Hannah Rogaczewska	AJ Dean
Ethan Loveridge	Colin Murawski	Kourtney Stone	Macie Saunders
Mason Charlesworth	Anna Mohammed	Nicholas Emberson	Daniel Perry
Victor Oliveira	Tayte Griffiths	Jethro Freemantle-Kewley	Liam Tallent
Kya Griffiths	Brooke Chapman	Fatima Dougouno	Sufanah Garout
Tommy Kozlowski	Lana Griffiths	Abdulrahman Alkanhoush	Sofija Stecenko
Jessica Loveridge	Joshua Scantlebury	Iyad Alkhanoush	Jacob Marshall

Have a great weekend everyone!

Mrs Meek and all the team at Pilgrim

