

Remote Learning

Dear Parents/Carers

This week, you have already received home learning from your teachers and this will be updated on a regular basis. Our aim for home learning is that it is purposeful, achievable and stress-free, there is no set expectation. We are fully aware that teaching your child at home is not an easy task, especially when you may have more than one child at home, as well as trying to deal with other family and work commitments. I cannot emphasize enough the message that you can only complete what is realistic, within your capacity. Every day is going to be different and you will need to be adaptable. The main message we all learnt from lockdown one, is that we want our children and families to be happy and safe and if things are not working, do not put any added pressure on yourselves.

Our home learning will aim to cover most subject areas but we are not expecting you to recreate classrooms in your home. However, if you can build in structure and consistency, that would really help your child. Remember to add in breaks and movement, so that children are not sitting for too long, as this age group have a limited concentration span. You can also remind the children of our school characters to support learning behaviours at home, which will also provide consistency and connection to school. One of the benefits that did come out of spring lockdown, was around families carrying out other activities together, such as cooking and playing games, going outside to exercise so don't forget these things too, they will benefit all of you.

The staff are currently finalising the processes for having more contact with children whilst they are out of school. We will be carrying out calls on Teams. However, I have to outline some guidance around this:

- Children should be encouraged as much as possible to engage with this contact.
- Parents will need to be in the same room as the child but the focus is for the children to have contact with staff and no parental comments or questions during this call.
- Video calls will need to be muted, when children are not talking.
- Try not to allow other family members to join in.

The school remains open for children of Critical Workers and those who are vulnerable and we are now running at full operational capacity. The staff are teaching full-time so please be mindful of this - they may not be able to respond to any enquires immediately and will respond in a timely manner. This also applies to the use of Tapestry in Foundation Stage - teachers will respond and comments will be posted within a week. I ask that you are patient will all staff across the school, including admin staff.

Class email accounts are also being set-up for each Year 1 and Year 2 class, to contact the teachers. For Ash and Willow, you will continue to use Tapestry. The purpose of this is for children to share their work and parents to raise any questions. We will try to provide as much feedback to children as possible. Our provision for home learning will be under constant review and I am sure staff will be making adaptations as time goes along.

Please can I also ask that parents refrain from comparing us to other schools. Each school will be providing different home learning, to the best of their abilities. We have already heard, "this is already not good enough" from some parents. We cannot fully recreate what we do in school, but we are working with the resources that we have to best support your child.

I would like to remind everyone that we are still here for you and we are contactable at school. If you need to get in touch, either email us: admin@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk or call 01344 774644. Our Family Support Advisor, Nikki Lenon, is also available for support and she can be contacted: nlenon@oaklands-inf.wokingham.sch.uk.

Keep safe and healthy and look after yourselves.

With best wishes,
Hannah O'Neill
Headteacher