

Mrs N Gardner
Acting Headteacher

Mrs K Hankin
Acting Deputy Headteacher



8th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our first week of the spring term has been very different to what we expected before the Christmas break. The staff have been working incredibly hard to set up quality remote learning for our children at home as well as supporting critical worker children and vulnerable groups at school. We hope that you are coping with the sudden changes and feel supported by school. Schools across the country are having to navigate last minute changes in guidance with no advance warning. We appreciate your patience and support as a community with this. This email will replace the newsletter this week as there is much information to be shared.

Google Classroom Expectations (There are some differences for nursery and reception)

- Children will need to log into Google Classroom at the start of each school day.
- Children will give an indication of their wellbeing next to their name when they register. Children should put a number next to their name to indicate how they are feeling each morning. This will range from 1 – 5, 1 being enthusiastic, motivated, engaged and ready to learn where as 3 or below will indicate they are worried, anxious, detached or concerned about something. This will enable teachers to monitor children's well-being and support them with any concerns they may have. If teachers are concerned about a child, a member of support staff will make contact with them/you.
- The children are able to send private messages to their teacher in Google Classroom. Please encourage them to do so, particularly if they are finding the work too challenging or they would like further support with their well-being or opportunities to learn.
- One activity highlighted below will be marked virtually by the teacher, which will be indicated when sent out daily. Work that is completed by 13:30 will receive feedback from the class teacher that day, any work submitted later than this will be marked the following day.

Maths lessons uploaded to Google Classroom, including a pre-recorded video where appropriate to support the children with the task.

English tasks uploaded to Google Classroom that follows the sequence of learning in the classroom. The quantity will be dependent on the age of your child. Some/all of these will be submitted to your child's class teacher on Google Classroom for feedback. These lessons will include spelling, grammar, writing and reading.

Reading should happen every day. Children are expected to access our online reading platform Reading Buddy.

Our vision is to create a community of successful learners who feel confident, happy and safe and who show respect for themselves, each other and the environment.

Derwentwater Primary School, Shakespeare Road, Acton, W3 6SA

Tel: 020 8992 9296 / 020 8992 5710

Email: parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk



Mrs N Gardner
Acting Head teacher

Mrs K Hankin
Acting Deputy Head teacher



8th January 2021

Topic tasks will be uploaded to Google Classroom for children to complete. These lessons will be linked to what your child would have had in class this term.

- **Children with an EHCP** will be given some 1:1 support and are entitled to access the school provision. However, if they are isolating, a more bespoke programme of support will be set up. This may include phone calls from your child's 1:1 support. These students are still expected to complete the learning tasks set on Google Classroom.
- **Vulnerable children** are entitled to access school provision. Please see guidance.
- **Reception and Nursery** activities will be uploaded onto Google Classroom and resource packs provided by the school where necessary. The screen time and Google Classroom expectation is greatly reduced for this age range.
- **Well-being phone calls** Along with daily learning and marking taking place, your child will receive a well-being phone call during the course of the week. This will either be from a member of your child's year group teaching team, Acting Deputy Head (Mrs Hankin) or SENCo (Mr Butcher). All phone calls will be logged and we will phone back any unanswered phone calls. Please understand that there are limitations on this and if we are unable to get through again you may have to wait until the following week for a phone call. Remember that children are able to direct message their teachers on Google Classroom if they are feeling anxious and want to check in with them.
- **Daily drop in meetings** on Google Meet will allow children to meet with their teacher and classmates to stay connected and to ask questions. Some extra meetings will be provided to support children with misconceptions or who are struggling with their learning.
- **Respectful behaviour** on Google Classroom is an expectation of everyone accessing this learning platform. If children write inappropriate messages, they will be warned and then parents will be called. Please remind children that this is not a personal, social media platform but a learning one which should be used appropriately at all times.
- **Google Classroom Codes** If your child is being asked to put in a Google class code to get onto Google Classroom then it may be because a sibling has not signed off Google Classroom on the shared device. Each child needs to use their own individual log-in to access their own classroom.
- **Glitches** There have been some issues with Google Classroom and Reading Buddy as their platforms have had the occasional technical issue. Some issues are outside of our control but we will work quickly to rectify any problems.
- **Year group emails** are better to use to communicate with class teachers who can respond quickly. Parentcomms can still be used but this may take longer as the messages need to be forwarded to the relevant member of staff. Use Parentcomms for all other queries.

2

Our vision is to create a community of successful learners who feel confident, happy and safe and who show respect for themselves, each other and the environment.

Derwentwater Primary School, Shakespeare Road, Acton, W3 6SA

Tel: 020 8992 9296 / 020 8992 5710

Email: parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk



Mrs N Gardner
Acting Head teacher

Mrs K Hankin
Acting Deputy Head teacher



8th January 2021

Accessing Google Classroom through other devices

We have been informed that Google Classroom can be accessed through devices such as an Xbox and PlayStation. See the instructions below.

A green graphic with two columns of instructions. The left column is for PS4 and the right column is for Xbox. At the bottom right is a "LOVE LITE" logo.

PS4

1. Turn on PS4
2. Use your controller to scroll to the far right of the bar with games to *Library*
3. Select *Library* application
4. Within the library use the search bar to type in *Internet*
5. Select the *Internet Browser* app
6. Start Internet Browser and press the triangle button on the controller to search
7. Once on the internet, type in the search box *Google Classroom* and select the first link that comes up:
Classroom: manage teaching and learning Google for Education - link below
<https://edu.google.com/products/classroom>
8. Select *Go to Classroom*. Then log in using student email and password.

XBOX

1. Go to Home Menu
2. Select *My Games and Apps*
3. Scroll down to *Apps*
4. Go to *Microsoft Edge* application
5. Type in a search for *Google Classroom*
6. Select *Go to Classroom*
7. You will need to log in using your student email address and password.

LOVE LITE

BBC Education Offer

Starting on Monday 11th January, each week day on CBBC, there will be a three-hour block of primary school programming from 9am, including BBC Live Lessons and BBC Bitesize. This is optional for parents and we understand screen time is important to manage as a family. This might be useful for families without broadband and who have limited or no access to devices.

Mobile Data Offer

The Department for Education have announced a pilot scheme to help parents with the cost of mobile data. Please see the attached link for more details. Please email Parentcomms if this is something you believe you are eligible for and would like support with.

<https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/about-increasing-mobile-data>

Reception Applications

The deadline for applications for a reception place is 15th January. It is important to apply even if your child is in nursery as this does not guarantee them a place. Please apply before the deadline as we usually have a waiting list for our reception. Late applications might not get a school place.

No SATs this year

End of Key stage SATs are cancelled for all children. School will continue to assess children and report on progress and attainment to parents through our own assessment procedures.

Our vision is to create a community of successful learners who feel confident, happy and safe and who show respect for themselves, each other and the environment.

Derwentwater Primary School, Shakespeare Road, Acton, W3 6SA

Tel: 020 8992 9296 / 020 8992 5710

Email: parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk



Mrs N Gardner
Acting Head teacher

Mrs K Hankin
Acting Deputy Head teacher



8th January 2021

Online Safety

Look at the six top tips below on how to keep your child safe online. The link below gives you access to the document and other useful resources.

<https://static.lgfl.net/LgflNet/downloads/digisafe/Parent-Top-Tips-Safe-Online-Corona.pdf>

LGfL DigiSafe keeping children safe **SIX TOP TIPS**
To Keep Primary Kids Safe Online During School Closure

Children are bound to spend lots more time on devices during school closure. **DON'T FEEL BAD ABOUT IT** – lots will be schoolwork or catching up with friends. But there are ways to keep them safe, healthy and happy.

Don't worry about screen time; aim for screen quality
Scrolling through social media isn't the same as making a film or story, or Skyping Grandma. Use the Children's Commissioner's 'Digital Five A Day' to plan or review each day together.

Check the safety settings are turned on
Whether it's your home internet, mobile devices, consoles, apps or games, there are lots of settings to make them safer. The key ones are - can they chat to strangers, can they video chat or 'go live', are their posts public? **Internet Matters** has hundreds of guides to parental controls.

Get your children to show you their apps and games
You don't need to know all about the latest app or game, but if your child shows you what they are doing and with whom, you'll probably see if it's appropriate or not. Remember 18 games are not more advanced – they are harmful to children! For parent guides to apps, including recommendations for kidsafe apps and video platforms, search for **Common Sense Media** or **NSPCC's NetAware**. And why not download the **BBC Own It** app?

Don't try to hide the news about coronavirus
If you don't talk about it, your children might read inappropriate pages, believe scare stories or simply catastrophise in their heads. Why not watch **Newsround** together and talk about how they feel – there is guidance from **Childline** to help you.

Remind them of key online safety principles
There are too many to list, but remember human behaviour is the same online and offline. Remind your children to be a good friend, to ask for help if they are worried or if someone is mean, not to get undressed on camera and most important of all... if somebody tells them not to tell or ask for help because it's too late or they will get in trouble, **THAT'S A LIE!**

If you aren't sure, ASK!
Your school may be able to give you advice, but there are plenty of other places to ask for help as a parent or a child, whether it is advice or help to fix something. Lots of sites are listed at reporting.lgfl.net, including ones to tell your kids about (they might not want to talk to you in the first instance).

You can find anything above by just googling it, or follow us @LGfLDigiSafe on Twitter or Facebook where we regularly share these resources

4

Our vision is to create a community of successful learners who feel confident, happy and safe and who show respect for themselves, each other and the environment.

Derwentwater Primary School, Shakespeare Road, Acton, W3 6SA

Tel: 020 8992 9296 / 020 8992 5710

Email: parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk



Mrs N Gardner
Acting Head teacher

Mrs K Hankin
Acting Deputy Head teacher



8th January 2021

Parents Evening

Parents evening will take place during the 2nd half of spring term after children return to school. Communication will continue through Google Classroom, phone calls and Parentcomms if you have any queries or feedback before then.

Nursery Reopening

The DfE released new guidance yesterday announcing that nurseries, including those attached to schools, should open. There has been confusion over EYFS remaining open as EYFS includes nursery and reception. This has now been clarified by the Department of Education. Reception remains closed along with the rest of the school except for children of critical workers and vulnerable groups. There will be further guidance around when nursery will open at the start of next week to those parents affected. Calls will also be made to parents to determine interest.

Food Parcels for children eligible for Free School Meals (FSM)

Harrison's catering team are currently offering food parcels to families entitled to FSM. The government may decide to offer vouchers but we will keep you updated of any changes. Please email school before collection. Collect food parcels from the main gate between 2.45 and 3.00.

Mental Health

Looking after your child's mental health as well as your own is crucial in getting through this difficult period. Counsellors at school can support you and your child if necessary and there are many useful links and resources in previous newsletters and on Google Classroom. We do not underestimate how challenging this time is on everyone, including pupils, staff and parents and we want to offer as much support as we can so please let us know if you are struggling.

Covid Increases in London We must continue to follow the guidance to reduce the spread of the virus. Schools have been closed to most children as the virus transmits in schools. The sooner the virus is under control the sooner schools can open again. Please adhere to lockdown rules.

Let your child's teacher know what is working well as we do our best to improve our offer and to support families. Feedback helps us to meet the needs of our children and families by working together. We are all looking forward to when schools will be safe to open again.

Kind regards
Nikki Gardner

5

Our vision is to create a community of successful learners who feel confident, happy and safe and who show respect for themselves, each other and the environment.

Derwentwater Primary School, Shakespeare Road, Acton, W3 6SA

Tel: 020 8992 9296 / 020 8992 5710

Email: parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk

