

Stivichall Primary School

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Headteacher
Mrs K Ferguson

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Dear Parents/Carers

Each child has come home with a learning pack, a library book and an individual reading book. Staff will aim to deliver learning packs to children who are currently self-isolating or absent by the end of the day. Please encourage children to be responsible for these as the usual expectations apply regarding the replacement of lost or damaged items.

Alongside these, teachers will ensure that learning is uploaded daily using our online platforms. This includes Purple Mash, Mathletics and Spelling Shed as well as the new SeeSaw platform, details of which have been sent home. It is vital that the password and log on sheet (included in the learning pack) is kept safe and referred to throughout the closure).

All teachers will ensure that their class have a morning message from them providing a positive start to the day. Our aim is to mirror our usual classroom routine as much as possible. Teachers will also be available to respond to messages or queries during the mornings.

Teachers will aim to mark and provide feedback on specific completed online learning. We would encourage children to access and complete their learning tasks to consolidate and practice all of the knowledge and skills they have acquired over the year. Teachers will monitor this to ensure that they can provide the best possible learning opportunities for their children. Sometimes your child's teacher will specify when they will provide feedback, this will usually be after setting a more in-depth piece of work that will take time to read and comment on.

Please note, that there may be days when your child's class teacher is in school supporting those children in need of a school place throughout the closure. Although they will still set work, please understand that this will impact on their ability to feedback that day.

Although It is not necessary to follow a strict timetable, it can be helpful to establish a routine that works for your family to help to maintain some sense of normality and structure.

Feedback on our learning is always helpful; please try to make the time to share your child's learning with them enhancing the feedback given by teachers.

Alongside the learning we will be providing, make use of websites, lots now have free access. Regularly check our website as there is a comprehensive list that have quality resources, games and support for parents. We have updated our 'Learning at Home' page on the school website with some ideas but there are also lots of online communities sharing great ideas.

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We are aware that, whilst on the one hand, we are fortunate to have online learning platforms (this would have been unheard of just a generation ago), we also need to be mindful of screen time and mental well-being. We have sent home other activities that can supplement online learning and would encourage you to build in other fun tasks, such as:

- play some board games
- do some family cooking
- share some family memories (this time will inevitably become a memory our children share with their families when they are older)
- discover new hobbies
- organise your photos
- learn some new songs
- practise musical instruments
- help others when you can
- visit some national Trusts parks (open for free for those who are well)
- do some gardening
- spring clean bedrooms
- do a jigsaw
- be mindful and think of things we can be thankful for
- find items to draw or paint
- play charades and other games we often only find time for at Christmas and most importantly enjoy the time you are sharing together.

Please also adhere to the guidance underlined below so that we can all do our part.

Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.

We know this is a really difficult time for everybody and we will be thinking of you all. Please try to make time to focus on your own mental well-being too.

With warmest regards and best wishes

Mrs K Ferguson
Headteacher

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