

Newsletter

Friday 15th January



Dear Parents

First of all, I would like to thank all those of you who have taken the time to send messages of support over the past two weeks; the staff team are all working extremely hard and your messages are greatly appreciated. Equally, we would like to express our appreciation for all your hard work at home; we know that this can be a real challenge but are delighted with the level of engagement in home learning.

Google Classroom and Live Lessons

We have been really pleased to receive feedback regarding the organisation of home learning tasks on Google Classroom and the live sessions on Google Meet. These have been shared with all members of teaching staff who are taking suggestions on board to make accessing lessons and resources as easy as possible. We know that some of you like to have all the resources in advance, while others prefer a more day to day approach: we are working on this and teachers will try to put the resources for lessons into a folder as they are prepared. However, part of teaching is to respond to the children's learning day by day and it is not necessarily possible to plan a week in advance, especially for maths and English.

Technology and Other Resources

If there is anything you need, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We are not able to print tasks and most activities are designed so that no printing is required unless you wish to, but we do have a range of resources which may be borrowed. If you are short of devices for your children to access home learning, please contact the office.

Key Worker Children

Like all schools, we have far more children in school than during the previous lockdown and this is a cause for concern as we endeavour to protect children and staff. The national situation is grave and the more children we have in school, the greater the risk of infection and the possibility that the school would have to close; this would be particularly hard on those parents who are NHS staff. We do want to do our best for those families who really can't manage without sending their children to school, but equally, would urge you to consider whether you could possibly manage to keep your children at home to engage in live lessons and other home learning activities.

School Meals

There has been a lot of coverage in the media this week regarding free school meals. I would like to reassure you that the Farm Kitchen are providing good-quality food parcels for children at home with plenty of food for five lunches a week, as well as providing packed meals for those in school.

Worship with Fr Aran

It was lovely to see some of you on Zoom last Monday. Fr Aran will be leading worship again on Monday at 2:45pm – everyone welcome!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83942623494?pwd=dmtBRWRGVzZ1TEdkckhkZnNrQXJIUT09>

Meeting ID: 839 4262 3494

Passcode: 236012

A Treat for Next Week

We are so pleased with everyone's efforts with home learning but know that it can be very tiring for both children and parents. To this end, we shall be marking the end of the third week of lockdown by setting very little work for next Friday. All classes will have their usual live check-in with their class teacher but, after that, we would encourage them to have some fun by creating something. This could be their best ever Lego model, a den in their bedroom, a game or a piece of art and craft. If all this fills you with horror, then maybe some time just enjoying playing with toys or enjoying being outside in the garden. We would love to see some of their creations so feel free to send a photograph to Mrs Lawson to be shared on Facebook. We shall still celebrate the week with Merits at 2:30pm.

On behalf of everyone at Uffington School, thank you for your continuing support

Mrs HR Simms
Headteacher