



Padstow School Newsletter

27th March 2020

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Message for parents & carers during school closure

Firstly, once again, may I take this opportunity to thank you for your patience and understanding during recent days surrounding the ongoing coronavirus crisis. It has been truly heart-warming to receive so many messages of support from our school community and, for that, we are all very grateful. We will be closing the school today with a heavy heart but are now planning for the next stages for your children.

Secondly, we wanted to reassure you all that our lines of communication and contact for parents and children remain very firmly open. We know that the next period of time is going to be difficult for parents, children and staff and we are doing everything we can to make the transition to home learning as smooth as possible. This is new to all of us and we are sure that we will make many changes along the way. Staff from across Aspire have been working hard to prepare Home Learning Packs for children to begin using from Monday 30th March .

We know that children enjoy structure and routine as this helps them to feel safe and secure. We also understand that this may be difficult for some families to provide a consistent routine as you adjust to the challenges of home learning, self isolation, shielding and the other worries and anxieties around such huge changes to normal everyday life. So, making the most of the sunshine to go out into the garden or for a walk is very important. Building dens, playing games or reading outside, talking about what can be seen on your walks and just spending time together are as important to you as a family as the Home Learning Packs.

We are trying our best to support everybody with the transition from school to home and we hope that together, we can support each other to make it as successful as possible. Please tell your children that we are all thinking of them and looking forward to seeing them again when we return to school, whenever that might be. If I can be of any help or support over the coming weeks, please do not hesitate to email me kate.whitford@padstowschool.org. I do not promise to reply immediately as I may be working in another school or taking a few days break - but I will reply as soon as I can. Please stay safe and we look forward to hearing from you all about how your home learning is going!

Learning at home

There is an array of learning resources available now to access from home should you wish. Whilst the schools are closed there are no definite deadlines for the work, so take it at your child's pace and make the most of the sunshine whilst we have it! When you wish to set work for your children, use the following:

Log into the Wonde portal using the details on the printed letter (email emma.sanders@padstowschool.org if you can't find your login details). From there you can click into a variety of learning websites such as Sumdog, Renaissance learning (Accelerated Reader) & Times Tables Rockstars. You may find that Sumdog & AR require additional login details to let you in—these were emailed to you all earlier this morning from Arbor.

From Monday, go to the Home Learning page of the Padstow School website. In there you will find documents outlining 2 weeks' worth of work. They are split into year groups and contain web links as well as instructions on daily maths, reading, writing & spelling tasks and a learning project that can be done throughout the week. They also contain ideas of how to keep your child active and creative. These Home Learning packs can again be used at your own child's pace. Use the named Home Learning blank books that were sent home from school to write up any work that isn't completed online.

If you are unable to access the packs online then we do have a printed version we can distribute. The offline packs are not as comprehensive, as a lot of additional learning is gained through the web links, but if you need one and don't yet have one, please email secretary@padstowschool.org and we will arrange to have one posted to you.

Free Read Write Inc. resources

Oxford Owl has now made available a lot of free Read Write Inc. resources that we use in school. They have practice sheets for all the sounds, e-books in the different colour bands and words to practise as well as a RWI daily lesson!

It is a fantastic resource and well worth looking at if your child usually does Read Write Inc. at school:

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/reading-schemes-oxford-levels/read-write-inc-phonics-guide/>