

Friday 15th January 2021 - Newsletter 15

A message from Miss Towler...

Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge well done to all our families for what has been a great week of learning both at home and at school. It fills me with great pride that our children have coped so well at such a difficult time. Looking at the learning that is being shared on Tapestry in Early Years, Seesaw in Key Stage One and Google Classroom and Seesaw in Key Stage Two, I have been blown away by how quickly the children have adapted to their new normal. We can all see that they are working super hard!

During this lockdown, it is essential that your child completes all their remote learning in order that they continue learning and that gaps don't develop. This will help them to hit the ground running when we do return to school. Teachers will be monitoring engagement with learning and will be contacting anyone who is not completing their work to offer support and guidance. If you are finding it difficult to support your child with their home learning then please contact the school office. Our Pastoral Lead, Miss Bell, is available to talk to families who may need support regarding their child's emotional wellbeing.

A great big thank you for all your support – we have received many emails, messages and thank yous for the work that the team have put in to support the children during the last couple of weeks. Last Friday I put many of these messages of positivity into an email to the whole staff team to say a big well done and thank you for their hard work. It was very much appreciated and a much needed boost after a long and tiring week. I have shared a few on the next page.

To all our families, have a well earned rest this weekend and stay safe.

Best wishes,

Caroline Towler
Headteacher



Weekly Check In

We have had over 50 responses to our weekly check in shared this week. Thank you to every parent and carer who has asked their child the questions shared. There is still time to complete this week's form, perhaps even to reflect on the week now we have reached Friday. Please click on the link below if you haven't completed the form yet. <https://forms.gle/SJJM93j32Ysfeeo16>



Celebrating our wonderful lockdown learners



This Week's Purple Book Lockdown Stars



Vidyard Recording



This week I have recorded a mini star assembly to celebrate the children who have been nominated by their teachers to be in the purple book. Click on the blue link below to find out if your child has been chosen:

[Purple Book Nominees](#)



Supporting your child's wellbeing through lock down #homelearninghelp

This week's focus: **Creating a routine for your child**

We've all experienced changes in our lives and routines, especially children because many of them can't go to school at the moment. Create a routine together to help your child feel more secure. Use the timetable on the link

below to create a visual timetable with your child. Children can draw or write in the timetable or cut out and stick images of the suggested activities below. Remember, it is important to have time to relax. [Creating a routine resources](#)

Thank you for your kind messages...

Here are some of the kind words that our families have shared over the last few weeks. Thank you for your ongoing support. It means such a lot to us all. We may not always get things right but we are determined to do the best we can for all our children.

As we come to the end of the first week of home learning, I would like to write to you to tell you how grateful I am to the staff at Tadcaster Primary Academy who have provided a range of resources, engaging work and content support to my son.

He has been provided with a chrome book, a set of books and everything needed to access a range of online resources. We are contacted by school throughout the day with updates, information and to check in on my child.

To have managed all of this with such little notice is incredible and also to manage to do this whilst providing supervision and care for the key worker and vulnerable children is outstanding.

I am impressed and grateful to the class teacher and also to the rest of the staff at the school.

Dear all, I just wanted to send a big thank you to all the team. I feel incredibly lucky that my children go to such an amazing school. You have been so supportive to the children and us as parents. As I hear different things, I am telling everybody about what you are doing and how you are putting the needs of the children first. Thank you so much.

Just wanted to say thank you for everything that's been done over the past few days, I know all school staff will have had to work so hard to get everything ready just to come back yesterday never mind now moving to online learning and vulnerable/key worker provision.

As with many parents who are key workers, continuing to work shifts whilst home schooling is a challenge to say the least, especially trying to keep a child engaged when there are so many distractions. However this time school work seems more manageable with it being set daily and with the use of google classroom rather than printing an overwhelming amount on paper. Thank you as always for keeping us up to date, for reminding us, both parents and children, that you are always there if/when needed. You are doing an amazing job in such a challenging time.

REMOTE EDUCATION 10 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS

Remote education ensures continuous learning outside the classroom. For parents and carers, remote education isn't always straightforward and there can be a number of factors they need to consider, especially around ensuring their children feel comfortable and are familiar with the whole concept. That's why we've created this guide to help parents and carers support their child in getting the most out of their remote education experience.

1. TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

As a parent or carer, your school may have explained how remote education works already, but children may still need help. Take an active interest in their learning and help support them whenever they need a helping hand.



2. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S COMMUNICATION AND ONLINE ACTIVITY

It's important to remind your child that despite being at home, the same level of behaviour and conduct exists as if they were at school. Encourage them to remain polite, remember their manners and not to post or send any negative comments just because they are behind a computer.



3. ESTABLISH A DAILY SCHEDULE AND ROUTINE

Working from home and trying to learn in a more casual setting that children might associate more with play and a degree of freedom might take a bit of getting used to. Try to stick to a daily routine and use the timetable/schedule that schools have sent home to help children keep on top of their daily learning.



4. ENCOURAGE SCREEN BREAKS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AWAY FROM DEVICES

Remote learning will inevitably require more interaction with computers, laptops and tablets. Teachers will invariably advise on screen breaks; however, it doesn't hurt to keep a check on their time online or encourage them to get some fresh air/exercise.



5. ENSURE YOUR LEARNING DEVICE IS IN PUBLIC SPACE IN THE HOME

It's important to consider where your PC or laptop is placed if live video is being used. Try to keep the background neutral, with no personal information visible and move learning devices out of the bedroom as this could be deemed inappropriate.



6. IMPLEMENT SAFETY CONTROLS AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS ON APPS AND SOFTWARE

Dependant on how your school implements remote education, your child may be required to download certain software or apps. Whilst these are likely to be relatively safe to use, like any other new app or platform, parents should still implement safety controls as a precaution.



7. ENSURE YOUR CHILD ONLY USES OFFICIAL SCHOOL COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

It's important that all communication with teachers and school staff is directed through approved school channels, whether that be through the school's online portal or the relevant secure messaging site.



8. FAMILIARISE YOURSELF WITH RELEVANT SCHOOL POLICIES

Schools should have a policy on remote education that they can share with parents. Familiarise yourself with this and ensure you know what is expected of teachers and your child during lessons, both online and offline.



9. MAINTAIN FEEDBACK WITH TEACHERS

Engage in communication with teachers where possible, and try to feed back progress and development as well as any helpful suggestions around the learning process. Be transparent but remain professional and only use official channels to communicate.



10. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

Remote education will likely mean that your child won't get the same level of social interaction and might not see their friends for a while. Keep a check on their wellbeing and try to encourage them to get out as much as they can. Whilst learning from home might seem fun and exciting to start with, missing out on seeing their friends every day might take its toll.

