



Challenge, Equality & Opportunity

Friday 29th January 2021

Updates and Information

Children of Critical Workers

Following our plea last week, huge thanks to those of you who have either given up your place in school or have reduced the number of days you need. We appreciate how difficult this is for some of you and we are very grateful. We are still hearing from parents and carers who are taking on NHS roles or returning to face to face work and so it is important that we continue to prioritise our places for those who need them most. Thank you for your support and understanding.

PE with Joe

Well done to Key Stage 1 children at home – your efforts with PE resulted in Ms McKenna and Mr Burnett (Mr Bearnett?) having to do PE with Joe this morning in our own fancy dress! We think that we might have started something so watch out for more school staff in fancy dress next Friday! I wonder who it will be...?



Key Stage 2 Learning at Home

You should all be aware from Seesaw that the KS2 teachers have reorganised the provision for learning at home. Mr Burnett and Mrs McMeekan took over from Miss Campbell in setting up activities and providing the videos and resources on Seesaw. Thanks for your patience at the beginning of the week when we had a few teething issues with technology! Everything should be running smoothly now and we hope that the children are enjoying seeing different (but still familiar!) faces on Seesaw as well as keeping in touch with their own teachers through messages, stories and feedback.

Tips for Home Learning

Having had many conversations with staff and parents/carers this week about the challenges of learning at home, I have put together some 'frequently given answers' to your frequently asked questions and have attached it to this letter. I hope it is useful in reassuring you that doing your best is all anyone can ask of you and that this will be different for everyone depending on your circumstances. Everyone is managing the home learning in different ways and you all have a different set of circumstances which bring different challenges, so it is difficult to give advice which is right for everyone. However, the most important thing to remember is to be kind to yourself, keep in touch with us and ask for help if you need it.

TAPESTRY
ONLINE LEARNING

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Seesaw

Tips for Home Learning

Schools provide a structure in which children find reassurance and certainty. Think about how you will structure your days. Stick to regular get up times and bedtime and have time for learning, playing and resting. Don't worry if learning time has to come after or around your own work but let your children know when learning time will be each day.

We know that lots of you will be forced to juggle home schooling with your own jobs. Just do your best with home learning and ask for help if you are struggling. Prioritise reading and number based activities if you are limited for time. Children should be able to access stories and some videos independently too.

Talk to your child about their learning, their worries, their interests, their questions. Be honest with them about why life is so different so that they understand and can make sense of what is going on.

Your structure can change from day to day but tell children in advance when things will happen each day.

Remember that no one expects you to replicate what your children would be getting in school. Teaching isn't easy but every thing you do will have some impact on your children's learning. Just do what you can!

Make sure that you have some down time each day or evening. Children in school have lots of play opportunities each day.

No one is judging you and this is not a competition. Don't get drawn into comparing what you are managing to do with anyone else.

We are still here every day and will happily talk to you about any aspect of your child's learning or well-being.

If you need help or support, please get in touch with us here at school, either by phone 0181 2855141 or email admin@broadway.newcastle.sch.uk

Well done to everyone for another week at home, at work, at school... Everyone is working hard knowing that each day is one day closer to being able to have our school family back together and for us all to resume some normality. I hope that you all have a lovely weekend, try to get some fresh air and some time away from work, learning and screens if you can.

Take care and stay safe.

Helen McKenna

Headteacher