

Newsletter Term 5 – Week 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

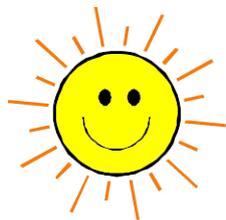
We hope you are all well and staying safe. Weekly newsletters during this time will help keep you informed and we hope you find them helpful. If there are things that you would like us to add to these then please let me know.

We want to remind you that we are here to help you and that if you are facing any difficulties physically, financially, socially, emotionally or need advice then please do contact us. The Friends of Firle and LSA are also here to help. This can be done via email or telephone. The School mobile is 07851 560273 and can be used for any emergencies.

We have attached a Rainbow certificate that you might like to print for your chil/ren at home to congratulate them on their learning at home and keeping safe.



We are all keen to get back to school and our caretakers and cleaners have been busy cleaning and preparing for our return when we are allowed to go back. We know this return is likely to be phased and cannot give any indication as to what it may look like until we have confirmation of a date from government.



It has been great seeing what the children have been doing and staff have enjoyed reading their messages.

The sun looks to be out again next week, which is always good news.

This week staff have had remote training on our Learning Academy and from this, we have set out some new guidance for how work is set and sent to the teacher. We hope the attached documents and information below helps you.

HOME LEARNING

We are now coming to the end of the second week of using our Learning Academy (through the school websites) to upload learning activities and communicate with the children. As with anything new, we have all had our teething problems!

Teachers have worked incredibly hard to teach themselves how to use the platform and each class has variations on how work is set and how they feedback on learning. After a staff training session, this week, on how to best use the Learning Academy, we have decided to agree a consistent way for every class to use, so that all staff, children and parents are aware of how work is monitored and stored. We hope that the attached guidance is clear in guiding you through the process. We will bring these changes in from **Monday 4th May**.

We would like to reinforce that all households are different and we know you are doing what you can. If the Learning Academy doesn't work for you please contact your child's class teacher to let them know what you have put in place instead.

The expectation is to log in daily (Mon-Fri, however we know this may not be possible for everyone, and this is ok) onto the Learning Academy and for pupils to access the learning for their class. They can then download this and save this on the device they are using; however, some tasks may be completed by filling in a box on the screen. We are then asking that the children upload 2/3 pieces of learning a week to their teacher (via messages) that they would like feedback on. This is so their teacher can message them with individual feedback.

To do this we are asking everyone to use the messages section on your child's individual homepage. The guidance attached shows you a step-by-step guide how to do this.

It is for your child to select 2/3 pieces for feedback. They can message the teacher to ask them to look at other work, which they can keep in their own files (guidance on how to do this is also attached).

Please do not use your child's message page to message their teacher with your own queries, this can be done by email. This is because all children can see the thread and it is a forum for them. Thank you.

Your child's class teacher will set the all the work as projects rather than home learning, which some classes have been using.

It is very difficult to find something that works for everybody, so please contact your class teacher if you are having any difficulties. Please also respect the teacher's workload as they are working at the Hub, planning weekly learning tasks, giving individual feedback and are also involved in remote meetings alongside other school responsibilities. They also have families that need them too.

You have all been amazing in taking on this challenge of home learning and we know it is not an easy task. When we are able to return to school, we will take into account what the children have and have not been able to do and support them at the stage they are at.

Some staff are using Zoom for small groups or class/ year groups. There are mixed feelings on this as some children / staff like it and some find it uncomfortable or do not have the capacity to do it. Staff may upload videos themselves to class pages so the children can visually see them. Children are able to do this too and save videos in their files or message them to their teacher. Each week I upload a story and message on the school website, which you can see on the homepage under 'Message from Mrs West'

E Schools, our Learning Academy provider, are working on a class discussion section that we hope will help those who want more interaction in completing their learning.

Wishing you all the best. Well done for all you have achieved this week,

Mrs Rachel West and Mrs Vicki Brown