



Kindness, Thankfulness, Perseverance



NEW SCHOOL WEBSITE

Yesterday we launched our new website. Please have a look and let us know what you think. We think it is so much better than our old one and so much easier to use and update. Over the next few days, we will be continuing to update the information on it. www.bourton.dorset.sch.uk

Well, what a first week back. We certainly weren't expecting to be closed! The staff have been incredible this week, working tirelessly with extremely short notice to change their plans and move to remote learning. As a staff group, we spent Monday morning reviewing and developing our Vision and Values with support from the Diocese and the afternoon preparing classrooms ready for the children to return safely on Tuesday. Little did we know that by 8pm we would be replanning and working through the night as our school provision changed and remote learning was implemented.

Even though the news keeps announcing "schools are closed" for the staff we are very much open. All the staff are in school every day as we provide for our Critical Key Worker children and home learning too. We just wish it was safe for us to all be together again. I hope that you will find the following pages useful in letting you know how we plan to operate during this period of lockdown.

We have had a very high number of parents requesting places for their child under the keyworker status this time. In March and April we had only 4 children in school and currently we have over 40 children...quite the increase. I kindly ask that parents only take places if really needed to enable you to carry out work "critical" in response to the Covid pandemic and where you are **NOT** working from home, as it is in everyone's best interests to keep numbers mixing as low as possible.

This week the teachers have quickly moved to provide our remote learning offer. We are fortunate to have had Microsoft Teams in place since the summer term. It has given us time to get used to using it, however live lessons and recorded lessons do take some getting used to so please bear with us. The children in school are being taught mainly by class teaching assistants following the remote learning set by the teachers. The class teachers are spending time planning and delivering remote learning as well as being in the classroom. If you do have a message for class teachers during the day, please remember they may not be able to get back to you straight away.

We will do our absolute best to keep everything running to plan but if a member of staff does become ill then we may have to temporarily close a class bubble and self-isolate. Fingers crossed that this will not be the case. We are on a fairly steep learning curve when it comes to some of this plan. Please bear with us—I know that staff will do their very best and we will adapt and improve as we move forwards.

It is not our plan to make weekly phone calls home during this lockdown as teachers will be seeing children online "live" each day. January is not always an easy month at the best of times and this lockdown will, I know, present challenges for many. I am on the end of the phone should you wish to talk anything through and am very much here to support.

Take care and stay safe.

Jill Farndale

Happy Birthday

Evie (11), Barni (11), Ava (11)



Many Happy Returns

Safeguarding

Should you have any Safeguarding concerns, please email either head@bourton.dorset.sch.uk or call school.

If you believe a child is at risk of immediate harm, you should contact 999

Quote of the week:

“The challenges of today are creating the strength of tomorrow.”

Remote Learning

Children who are not in school will be required to carry out learning at home. Staff are using numerous ways for this to happen:

- We are using Microsoft Teams to send links for online resources
- Microsoft Teams will be used as a tool for whole class live sessions each day as well as viewing pre-recorded lessons
- Emails and links to learning websites will be used
- BBC Bitesize materials and resources are available
- Oak Academy lessons will be sourced

This week we have given out Home Learning packs to all children. Within the pack each child has been given a **Home Learning Book** to record their home learning. If you require a new Home Learning Book please email the school office and we will arrange for a new one to be collected.

The teacher will be placing weekly work packs on the class Teams accounts. If your child is in Hedgehogs or Squirrels you will find their work in the **Files section**. If your child is in Badgers or Foxes their work will be set in **Assignments**. The assignment feature allows the teachers to give feedback on work shared and uploaded and also records who has completed the tasks. Don't forget to upload the work or a photo if possible for the teachers to see.

Each day the class teachers will also host a live on-line lesson. This will be an opportunity each day to see everyone in the class. Please make sure your child logs on to these sessions. We have timetabled the sessions so that siblings are not having the same online time if they are sharing a device. If your child is unable to access these sessions or misses a number of sessions the class teacher will be in touch to offer further support.

As well as the remote learning the teachers are providing, there are a lot of other excellent resources available for you to use at home. The BBC are also showing a whole host of educational programmes and clips at the site:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/genres/learning/primary/all>

The BBC will also be showing curriculum-based programmes on TV from Monday on BBC Two and CBBC, as well as online. They will include three hours of primary school programming every weekday on CBBC, and at least two hours for secondary pupils on BBC Two. Joe Wicks is hosting a regular PE session on his YouTube channel and Darrell Wakelam (local artist) has lots of ideas and activities on his website darrellwakelam.com

We appreciate that all of the online learning will require access to technology and a dependable Wi-Fi link. If you are having problems with any of these, please let us know so that we can look for ways to help you access online learning. We have a small number of notebooks that we have been loaning out to families to help with Remote Learning. If you would like to borrow a device, please contact the school office. I am hoping that the Government will provide us with some laptops, as they have discussed in the media, however at the moment we haven't received any!

We appreciate home learning is challenging, most of the staff are carrying out home learning/teaching with their own children. Please remember we are here if you need support and advice. Remember to take regular learning breaks throughout the day. The children will benefit from breaks and time to play at home as well as time learning.

Information for Key worker and vulnerable attending school:

Children will not be required to bring in any personal possessions, including pencils cases and we ask that NO toys including fiddly toys are brought in from home.

The children in school will be following the same remote learning plan including accessing the daily online sessions as those children at home. They will not receive any additional teaching.

The children do need to come to school in their uniform and we recommend plenty of layers especially on cold days. The school is currently cold as we continue to ventilate the school following Government advice.

All children need a named pair of wellies which can be left in school.

Hot School Meals are still available but do need to be ordered online as usual.

ALL children need to bring in a named water bottle & a fruit snacks for break time. We are not receiving the usual free fruit and milk deliveries.

Drop off time is 8:40am and pick up is 3:05pm.

The children do not need to bring in book bags or rucksacks.

Reading Books:

During this lockdown we would love to still be able to provide you with reading books. In order to do this, we have decided to have two afternoons for **book exchanges**. This will be on a **Monday and a Thursday afternoon**. If you need to change your books, please email us to let us know. The following book exchange afternoon, a plastic wallet of new books with your child's name on it, will be left by the school gate for you to take home. Please could you also return the books you have at home in the large lidded box at the gate, when you come to collect the new books. We will tick off the books returned and quarantine them, before sending them out again.

Daily Live On Line lesson Times via TEAMS

Class	Time
Hedgehogs	10:30am
Squirrels	9:30am
Badgers	11:30am
Foxes	1:30pm

Free School Meal Vouchers

During the National Lockdown children who are registered for Free School Meals will receive a weekly £15 food voucher.

If you'd like more information on this, please contact the school office.

School Closure:

During the school closure the office will be manned daily so please feel free to still call for day to day queries.

Leave a message if you do not get an answer and we will contact you.

Alternatively, you can email school on office@bourton.dorset.sch.uk

Or the class teachers on

hedgehogs@bourton.dorset.sch.uk

squirrels@bourton.dorset.sch.uk

badgersclass@bourton.dorset.sch.uk

foxes@bourton.dorset.sch.uk

Don't forget to share pictures of your amazing home learning. Keep looking on our twitter page and website for updates.

School
Twitter
Page:

[@StBourton](https://twitter.com/StBourton)



Schools and families can request free mobile data increases for students without broadband and/or those who can't afford extra data for devices. Three, Smarty, Virgin Media, EE, Tesco Mobile and Sky Mobile are all taking part in the scheme. If you think you qualify and would like support making the application, please contact the school office. More information available here:

<http://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/internet-access>

CORONAVIRUS ADVICE STAY AT HOME, STAY SAFE AND HELP THE NHS

Following the Government's announcement on Monday, the school will be closed until at least the February half term holiday. The single most important action we can all take, in fighting coronavirus, is to stay at home in order to protect the NHS and save lives. This means you should **NOT GO OUT AT ALL** except for essential reasons which are below.

You must not meet in groups of more than 2 people and should not let your children go and play in playgrounds or be out by themselves.

If you do go out, always stay at least 2 metres away from others.

The ONLY reason you should go out is for one of the following reasons:

1. Shopping for basic necessities, for example food and medicine, which must be as infrequent as possible.
2. One form of exercise a day, for example a run, walk, or cycle - alone or with members of your household.
3. Any medical need, or to provide care or to help a vulnerable person.
4. Travelling to and from work, but only where this absolutely necessary and cannot be done from home.

Where you can, you should work at home unless you have no other choice as you are working in a critical key job or have a child who is vulnerable please DO NOT send your child to school.

This is to protect your child, your family and others as well as school staff.

Did you know?

If you have a Playstation or Xbox, you can access your Microsoft Teams account through it for Home Learning. We haven't tried this but below are the suggested routes for each device.

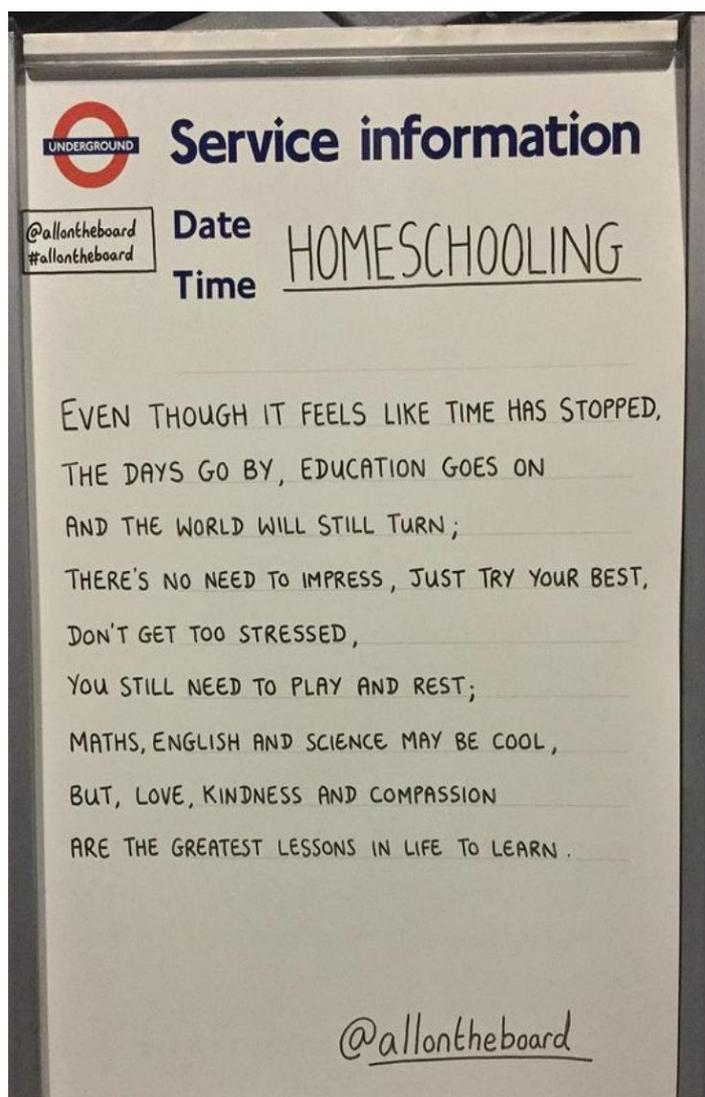
Xbox

1. Plug a keyboard in to the Xbox USB slot
2. Go in to my games and apps
3. Find Microsoft Edge and select
4. Type Microsoft Teams
5. Log-in as you would at school

PlayStation

1. Identify the PlayStation internet browser (it is www with dots around it).
2. Press the PlayStation logo on the controller
3. Go to the library and find options for games and applications
4. Go into applications and you will find the internet browser
5. Type Microsoft Teams
6. Log-in as you would at school

Please let us know if it works!



Live Online Learning Top Tips for children, parents and carers

<p>You will be invited to join live sessions via your TEAMS login. When you log-in you will be admitted by your teacher.</p> 	<p>Check your background. Make sure nothing personal or offensive is behind you. You can blur your background or add your own choice of backgrounds.</p> 	<p>A parent or carer should be nearby during the session. They can pop by to wave at the start of the session to show the teacher they are around.</p> 
<p>You need to be suitably and fully dressed. No PJs!</p> 	<p>Do not film, screenshot, or photograph live sessions. The teacher can do this if needed but not children or parents.</p> 	<p>Make sure you have a good learning environment where there is as little to distract you as possible.</p> 
<p>To help with sound quality and so that we can all concentrate please keep yourself on mute unless you have been invited to speak. You can use the "raise your hand" button to show you want to speak or use that chat function.</p> 	<p>Don't panic! Sometimes technology fails or you lose connection. Don't panic if this happens your teacher will understand – it may even happen to your teacher. If you are having problems re-joining send your teacher a message.</p> 	<p>Enjoy seeing everyone. We are missing not having everyone together in our classrooms instead the computer screen is our classroom.</p> 

We are missing seeing you all in the classroom but remember the video call is just like our classrooms. Remember the behaviours we expect in a classroom.

