



Lydiard Millicent CE Primary

Believe ~ Learn ~ Grow



Keeping in Touch Letter

Friday 12th June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers of Lydiard Millicent,

This week, we have successfully re-opened the school to more children in groups across the school for those in the first priority group. We know that for the majority of families, the change won't have been noticeable but there was a huge amount of work needed to reopen under the strict guidance. It was lovely to see more children returning and I am very proud of the way the team made the start a calm and positive one for all. This smooth start meant that we have been able to finalise the remote learning plans for rest of Term 6. We are very aware that the majority of our children are still learning from home and I am really pleased to be able to share with you some changes that the team have made to the plans for the rest of this term.

Remote Learning:

We have incorporated as much of the feedback we have received from parents as possible. There are some common threads in this feedback but it is also very evident that everyone's situation is unique. Some families want an increased amount of learning set, some families have requested more structure, some families want more online, some want less online and some want the flexibility to work around parent working hours. We have shaped our plans around as much of this feedback as possible in order to offer some choice.

The changes that have been made are:

- The format has been simplified to a suggested daily timetable of activities.
- The learning plans are available on the class pages and in one document, for example, Year 4 Learning rather than a Class Topic Taster or Learning Project.
- Each day there are five sections comprising of a reading, spelling, maths, writing and a topic task (or project for Y6).
- The core learning is now by year group rather than by phase.
- The maths activities have links to the year group's White Rose videos and worksheet resources which build upon mathematical skills throughout the week.
- Purple Mash activities have been included, where appropriate, to support learning and these will be set as a 2Do.
- Learning activities may provide an embedded PowerPoint or document to aid explanation of a task or understanding of new concepts. This is so that parents don't then have to search for the right resources.
- An overview of activities to continue to promote positive mental health is on each class page.
- 'How to' guides have been created to support answers to some of the questions we have had about Purple Mash. These are also on each class page for easy access.
- Year 6 will have access to all of the above plus an additional project each week, set by Mr George. Please see the separate letter sent to Year 6 children.
- A printed pack of Summer booklets (like the Spring ones issued when we closed) has been offered to parents (email sent on 10.06.20) and will be available to collect from the front of school on Tuesday to Friday next week during the school day. This is could be completed in place of the other learning set or in addition to. Packs will be in envelopes and we ask that

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parents observe social distancing rules if others are waiting to collect a pack at the same time. We don't plan at this stage to issue further packs.

Parents can send learning in to teachers either by using Purple Mash or by class email. Some of our older children may like to take ownership of uploading their own work for their teachers to see. In the case of EYFS children, the ILD can also be used to upload learning and communicate with class teachers.

The key message here is choice. Some children will like Purple Mash, others will prefer to spend next week working through the packs, some children will like the structure of the new learning plans. Please don't worry about what other parents are doing or sharing, every situation is different and we know that everyone is doing their very best and that is all we ask.

Zooms

As you know, teachers have now been assigned to work with groups back in school. We have managed to work out a schedule where they can be released at set times to be able to continue with class zooms as we know they are very popular. Zoom links will be sent out for next week. Teachers will still be able to respond to emails and review learning sent in or uploaded around their teaching hours. They know how important that contact is and they are committed to maintaining it.

Message from our Safeguarding Team

As online support may dip into videos, which can sometimes be on YouTube, please find attached useful parent and children guides for online safety tips.

Please note that we will be open on Friday 19th June (this was previously booked as TD Day). Don't forget that if you have any worries, including financial ones, you should get in touch. You can email the School Office or call 01793 770571 during school hours.

Thank you for your continued support and patience - it is always appreciated but even more so this term.

With very best wishes,

Mrs C Luce

Headteacher



Class R - Alexander H, Hanna C
Class 1 - Amanda D, Elliott M, Owen G
Class 2 - Amelie P, Ella B, Esmee T
Class 3 - Jamie G, Sophia G
Class 4 - Lerato N
Class 5 - Oliver P, Rihanna C
Class 6 - Lucy F, Sophie H