



A letter from Mr Carter

Friday 15th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

First of all, I would like to thank you all for another fantastic week. The children at home have been working incredibly hard on Tapestry and Google Classroom to document their learning this week. Alongside the work set by the teaching staff, we've seen a wide range of activities going on too.

WOW moments - my three highlights of the week!

- Seeing our new Nursery children arrive on Monday with such confidence for their first day
- Speaking to parents about technology problems and hearing how you've all learnt so much more about G Suite for Education
- The generosity of the local community to offer old devices, ability to print work if needed and supporting each other during this difficult time

Remote Learning

Once again, we're thrilled to see the level of work being uploaded to Tapestry and Google Classroom. Just a few reminders of the best way to access Google Classroom on a range of devices:

- Desktop PC or laptop - use Google Chrome as your browser and log directly into it
- Tablet/iPad/Phone - download the Google Classroom app from the App Store or Play Store
- Xbox/Playstation - as long as you're connected to the internet with this console, you can access Google Classroom
- Smart TV - if you have a smart TV then you can use the internet browser to access Google Classroom. You can plug a mouse and keyboard into it using the USB ports

One of the biggest technical issues I've dealt with this week has been people asking for class codes for Google Classroom. Every child has already been assigned to their class. What I'm finding is that people's devices are defaulting to their own personal Google account which isn't assigned to the class. If it asks for a class code, please check which account you're signed into. We can't give personal email addresses access to the class due to GDPR.

Please note that teaching staff are currently working online and delivering provision in school from 09:00-15:00. Feedback to the work posted will be in different forms. Daily messages of support are going out in each class. Children can go back to the previous week's work to undertake anything they have missed out on; however, please note this will be looked at but not commented on.



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Mobile Phone Data

As you might have seen on the news or on the Martin Lewis show last night. Lots of mobile phone providers are offering a free upgrade of data on your mobile phones to those of you who don't have fixed broadband internet access in your homes. If this is applicable to you, please contact the school to see if you're eligible for an upgrade.

Key Worker Places

Thank you for those parents/carers who have communicated with us about a place for their child/children. If you need provision, please note that our places are now incredibly limited. Please contact the School Office via MyEd as soon as possible. We will try our best to facilitate.

Routines

We all like to know what we're facing in the day. We don't mind which pieces of work children tackle first. Their timetable might look different each day. Attached to this letter is a pdf from the EEF called 'Planning the Day'. This document might help you to manage the time during the day, create new routines and help manage behaviour.

News from Norfolk Libraries - Storywriters' Club

Story Writer's Club is a friendly, fun Zoom group for 7-11 year-olds who enjoy bringing their stories to life on the page.

Sessions will recommence on Thursdays at 4.15pm; they will start on 21st January and run for 4 weeks until February half term, with the last one being Feb 11th.

Come along to share ideas or discover new ones and meet other people who enjoy creating too. To find out more, please email libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk.

Despite the Library being closed currently. There is a range of services available. Please look at

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries-local-history-and-archives/libraries/coronavirus-update>

Summary

I am so proud to be a part of the community that is Harleston CE Primary Academy. In these challenging times, it really shows what we can achieve. With everything going on, we're all immensely proud of our families and I want to remind you that we're here to support you all.

Yours sincerely,

Sam Carter
(Assistant Headteacher-Inclusion)