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20.4.20

Dear Parent

The staff at Roecliffe very much hope that you have all remained safe and well, and that you have enjoyed some of the wonderful weather during the Easter holiday.

Monday 20th April marks 'the first day back at school' for summer term but, as we know, we have at least another three weeks of confinement at home and remote learning begins again! We recognise, some of us from first-hand experience, the difficulties of being a parent working at home whilst 'home-schooling' our children.... and the frustrations this can bring! Ultimately, what we want for our families is good health and happiness, so whilst suggested timetables and excellent remote teaching is being provided through Google Classroom and Tapestry, we do understand that each family will have its own set of unique circumstances and should access what is appropriate for them.

Three things I have rediscovered during 'lockdown':-

1. Cooking a three course meal from scratch.
2. How beautiful the uninterrupted spring birdsong is.
3. Almost forty years on, how enjoyable a game of Tig 1-2-3 is!

**Remote teaching during summer term**

The staff will be delivering new learning in the summer term topics and have been busy researching the most appropriate strategies and resources, such as instructional videos, to introduce new concepts. There will also be material provided for the children to consolidate previous learning.

The BBC have collaborated with the DfE and will be launching a newly expanded education offer of 14 weeks of educational programmes and lessons from 20th April. Familiar faces such as Karim Zerual, Oti Mabuse and Katie Thistleton and organisations such as the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Premier League and Puffin Books have lent their support to this. Our teachers will use some of the content from BBC Bitesize Daily, such as videos, quizzes, podcasts and articles, as well as other sources of material.

When the children are in school and technology is incorporated into their lesson (this is called *blended learning*), we are able to support pupils with some face-to-face teaching whilst they

access online material. During school closure, though, we are relying solely on remote teaching and will continue to provide a balance of digital activities and paper-based activities which will differ in scope and volume, depending on the age of the pupils.

At times, we will incorporate some '*flipped learning*' which relies on pupils using online/offline activities (eg. research tasks) to find their own information at home and to bring their independent learning back to the group to discuss. This can be facilitated during closure by using 'discussion' on Google Stream.

### **Developing our pupils as learners during closure**

Continuous feedback to pupils about their learning is normally a crucial part of how we teach responsively, and is clearly impossible without our pupils in front of us! So, we see this period of time during closure as a window of opportunity to help our pupils develop as learners and increase their ability to be independent; think critically; reason and justify succinctly; think creatively and 'outside the box'; articulate thoughts confidently and use resilience and determination to overcome difficulties or setbacks. You may, therefore, see some activities which are set for this purpose, like a 'Thunk' or a challenge to complete.

### **Consistency in use of Google Classroom in Classes 2, 3 and 4**

Miss Harrison, Miss Clarke and Mrs Kerr have collaborated over the Easter break to reflect on our Google Classroom provision and ensure that we continue the development of a more consistent approach as a school, providing the best remote teaching that we can for our pupils. Moving forward, we would like to explain below how work will be set, completed and marked within Google Classroom so that teachers and families have a standardised understanding and approach to our remote teaching/learning in the future.

- **Setting work for pupils**

The teachers will continue to post work the day before it should be completed to give parents a 'heads up' of the work to be completed the following day.

Teachers will continue to provide daily dated folders for pupils to access each day's work.

Work will always be set for pupils through an '**Assignment**'. This allows teachers to set particular work for particular pupils and to keep track of the work completed and turned in by each pupil.

A balance of digital and paper-based tasks will be set for pupils and clear direction will be given so that pupils know whether to complete work on the online document or in homework books.

- **Pupils completing and submitting work**

All digitally produced work (assignments) on your device/computer should be submitted to teachers by pupils '**turning in**' their documents. Google Stream will not be used by pupils for submitting work (assignments).

Mrs Bennett has produced a brief instructional video on how to 'turn in' work. The link for this video can be viewed on the school website in the Home Learning tab.

When pupils have completed paper-based tasks, such as practising spellings or handwriting, these can be photographed and then uploaded to the assignment and also 'turned in'.

Please make sure that any photographs of work are taken from directly above the piece of work to help teachers to view it accurately when it has been turned in.

- **Pupils sharing work with each other**

Class 4 pupils were 'trained' on how to share work with each other before the school closure and are able to collaborate with each other and give peer feedback in this way. It is something which Miss Clarke and Miss Harrison are looking at introducing to their younger children at some point.

- **Teachers marking work and giving feedback to pupils**

The teachers will use a feature to add comments to your child's 'turned in' assignments (work) in appropriate places on the documents. For example, a teacher's comments will be added where spelling and punctuation corrections are needed.

The teachers will also give positive and 'Next Steps' comments through a Private Comment to your child on Google Stream about their work.

Google Stream will be used to provide general feedback to groups or the class as a whole.

I hope you find this information useful and please, please do not feel overwhelmed by either this guidance or home-schooling in general.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher, or myself, if you have any queries.

From all of us at Roecliffe CE Primary - stay safe and well.

Mrs Briggs