BISCOVEY NURSERY & INFANTS' NEWSLETTER

with strong roots we learn and grow together



Spring Term 2021

29.01.2021

A message from Mrs French

I hope you are all safe and well within your family bubbles. Yet again we have seen so much to celebrate with the home learning contributions and for this we would like to thank you for your ongoing support at this very difficult time.

This week you will have heard the government announcement that schools will not be opening after the February half term. Therefore our current remote learning provision will continue with the school only remaining open for children of key workers. It is important that our remote learning offer works well for our families, hence our latest surveys that have been sent. Thank you for your responses, these have been looked at carefully by the leadership team and discussed with the wider staff team. I would like to respond to few things which I hope you find helpful and reassuring:

- The work is set out in days—therefore if your child attends school for some of the week they will complete the work for those days whilst they are in school. Therefore, if your child is at home learning during Thursday and Friday this would be the work you would focus on. If you want to find out what cross-curricular work your child has covered please ask the Year group team via tapestry. Alternatively email hello@biscoveyinfants.org.uk and your query will be forwarded to the relevant class teacher.
- Please do what you can. We are asked to provide the equivalent of 3 hours learning for pupils. Some pupils get through more work than others. This is ok. Please talk to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns around this.
- The teachers are working hard to make the resources, films and PowerPoints easily accessible to you. Each resource should have the day of the week attached to the file name so that you know which resource is needed on which day. If you have any problems trying to access the resources do let us know.
- We try to allow for a mix of online and offline activities, some of which use worksheets and some which don't. There is also a weekly range of cross curricular activities for you to carry out with your children. These can be spread out across the week when it fits in with your family schedule.
- Please upload what you can for your child's class teacher to respond to. There may be some activities that your teacher would really like to see to support them in assessing how the children are getting on. Please try to upload these specific activities.
- We have had some positive feedback around the pastoral meetings between the children and teachers. We will continue to plan these in. Please keep an eye on your email for you invite link.

Below I have shared some of the comments you sent in via our questionnaire. I have shared them all with staff, some great things to read at this tricky time. On behalf of the staff I would like to send a thank you to you all. It is with your continued support that we can work together to make our school the successful and happy learning environment it is.





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Puffins ~ Elijah , Max , Oscar and Joshua W.

Swifts ~ Jacob , Ella and Albert

Swallows ~ Jowan

Robins ~ James and Robert

Owls ~ Isla-Mae and Poppy

Skylarks ~ Evie , Ethan and Isla







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Contacting the school office

If you need to contact the school office please email <u>hello@biscoveyinfants.org.uk</u> or call 01726 812006. Please remember that we are unable to respond to questions and queries via social media.

Free School Meals Update

If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium Free School Meals, you should have already received Edenred vouchers for week commencing 25th January. Please contact <u>hello@biscoveyinfants.org.uk</u> if you have not received these. If your child is in school they will receive their Free School Meal in school and you will receive a reduced voucher rate for the days they are not in school. Aspire will be processing Wonde vouchers to cover the half term period for eligible children.

If your financial circumstances have changed you may be entitled to Free School Meals. Please follow the link below and complete the <u>online form.</u> If you are unable to apply online, please call the Free School Meals team on 01872 323298

In the meantime, Pauline Giles, our local Community Councillor, is offering food boxes to families in need. Please contact <u>hello@biscoveyinfants.org.uk</u> to register your interest and we will be in touch with a collection date. Additionally Biscovey Academy have their 'Bring a Bag' offer open to all Biscovey families, please contact school if you would like further details on this.

Online Safeguarding through Lockdown

As the majority of our children are now at home accessing their learning online, can I please take this opportunity to remind you of a few key pointers aimed at keeping your child safe.

- Do not give out username/password details to anyone. If you are having issues logging in to any of our systems, please contact the school to help you resolve this.
- Online Supervision. With many of you having the difficult task or working from home and supervising your child's learning at the same time, it is inevitable that there are periods of time where children may be working unsupervised. For this reason, it is important to have parental controls set up to ensure that any online activity is age appropriate.
- **Parental Communication.** All communication to parents will come through the usual channels of email, text or telephone call.
- More information about keeping your child safe online can be found on our school website (https:// www.biscoveyinfants.org.uk/web/parents) under the parent section: Parents - internet safety

Keyworkers

We strongly advise that parents/carers DO NOT use a critical worker place if there is another adult at home, even if you are entitled to. The national lockdown is intended to minimise community transmission. It will not do this if parents send their children to school just because they can.

Critical worker provision is ONLY for parents who have NO OTHER CHILDCARE OPTION. Using this provision if another option is available will mean that someone who is in need may be struggling to provide care for their child. It also means it will take longer for us to come out of lockdown, as transmission will be higher than it needs to be.

Parents are asked to consider others and ONLY use their local school service if it is imperative to do so.







