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Dear All

Another Friday! Here we are again...

This week I've been trying to identify and learn more of the names of the wild flowers (not weeds), I see growing in my garden and those at the side of paths, when I go out for my daily walk. I don't know about you; but I really like to know what I'm looking at, whether it is a bird, tree or flower. I've started taking photos of the wild flowers which are unfolding everywhere and have even recorded some bird-song in order to identify it. It was a song thrush! This week I have learned what a 'yellow archangel' looks like and can identify a song thrush by its call.

Learning is when you acquire some knowledge or a skill that you didn't have before. What do you know or can do now, that you couldn't do a few weeks ago? I'm pleased to report that Mr Bridson is learning to bake bread. Yummy with my favourite raspberry jam! He's having another go as I write this newsletter, because he thinks he can get better at it. I'm encouraging him!

It's great to hear about many of you really getting to grips with learning to ride your bikes, learning to sew on buttons and spending time baking and cooking. When you follow a recipe, weigh out the ingredients and set the timer just think how many skills you are using. Reading for meaning, using scales, understanding units of measurement, getting to grips with ratio, being independent and many more! This is the sort of thing we'd love to do more of at school, but we just don't have the time or the facilities. For example, you need to practise weighing out ingredients a few times before you get proficient at it.

Make the most of your time at home and learn the life skills you will need for the future. Perhaps you could learn to:

- load and switch on the washing machine
- hang out the washing
- fold the clean clothes and match up the socks.

I'd love to hear about the practical life skills you have mastered! Getting out of bed and making it... that's a pretty good one too!



News (week commencing 20.04.20)



Our school continues to run on a skeleton staff, for children of key workers and for those who have different individual needs and challenges. This week the team caring for our pupils has been Miss Crook, Mrs Waters, Mrs Ford, Mrs Watson and Mrs Webb. Mrs Munt has also been in the school office all week and Mrs Davidson continues to work afternoons and evenings. **Thank you all for your continued hard work.**

Numbers attending school have risen this week. We continue to be here for those of you who require places. I know the whole staff is committed to supporting Key Workers so they can keep the country running. **Thank you, for all that you are doing.**

I would also like to pay tribute to those of you who continue to keep your children at home. You are also doing your bit! You help to keep our staff as safe as possible during this tricky time. Mrs Watkins and I will monitor numbers over the next few weeks and it maybe that we will have to re-organise things in order to allow for social distancing in the classrooms and keep risks to a minimum. Meanwhile, please continue to keep your children at home if you are able and it is safe to do so. **Thank you.**

Week 5 (20th April – 24th April)	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
SCHOOL TOTAL	21 pupils	18 pupils	20 pupils	20 pupils	14 pupils



On-line learning resources. The government has published new or added to existing on-line resources, in order to support learning at home. Links to many of these were already on our school website and some are brand new. You may find them useful. Please do contact us if you are finding it difficult to access on-line resources, so that we can help you find alternatives. Also remember the challenges prepared by our teachers for our pupils rarely rely on a computer!

Phonics:

If you are supporting your child in the development of phonics the **Letters and Sounds online lessons** which start from Monday 27th April, will prove useful to you. 'Letters and Sounds' is the scheme we use in school, so this should support your child and you pretty well. It does include lessons for adults about phonics, so it will prove educational for varied age groups! (See details below)

Early Reading:

If you are supporting your child in the development of their early reading skills then the **Oxford Owls** resource will be a god-send. There are at least 36 books available within each band. This is the reading scheme we largely use in school, so once again this could prove an invaluable resource. (See the school website for the link)

Home Learning Update! (summary provided by Wiltshire LA)

Several new learning platforms have been released this week to support schools and parents with home learning:

BBC Bitesize daily lessons
BBC Bitesize on iplayer
NCETM Mathematics daily lessons
White Rose Mathematics Home Learning
Oak National Academy
English hubs daily phonics lessons

BBC Bitesize (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>)

There are two elements to this:

Bitesize Daily Lessons

The newly-expanded Bitesize website will offer daily lessons in all core subjects, tailored for every age group from Year 1 to Year 10. The lessons will draw on the best of our existing BBC Bitesize and BBC Teach content, with activities and input from the broader education sector who have generously thrown their weight behind our work.

The Bitesize website will offer a newly-created maths and English lesson for each year group every day, as well as a lesson in another curriculum topic.

To access the schedule and get an overview for each year group for this week, please follow this [link](#).

To access the daily lessons for this week, please follow this [link](#) and then select the relevant year group.

Bitesize Daily on iPlayer

Bitesize Daily programmes - 20-minute shows each designed to target a specific age group (KS1, LKS2, UKS2, Y7, Y8 & Y9 - will be available on BBC iPlayer, on any device, and on TV via the Red Button. They contain a maths, English and another subject focus in each episode.

The lessons have been designed in consultation with teachers and education experts and will be presented by teachers, experts and by well-known BBC faces, including Karim Zeroual and Katie Thistleton. There will be some subject-specialist presenters too, for example, Bobby Seagull and Rachel Riley for maths, and Matt Barton for English.

To access the next two week's schedule for primary, please follow this [link](#).

To access the next two week's schedule for KS3, please follow this [link](#).

NCETM Daily Lessons <https://www.ncetm.org.uk/resources/54454>

A series of short videos have been produced to provide primary school pupils with interactive mathematic lessons while they are at home. All these lessons have been planned collaboratively by the NCETM's primary team and a group of Maths Hubs Mastery Specialists.

Teachers can choose how regularly they set them, but it is important that, within each batch, they are set in the suggested order. Most lessons are 15 to 20 minutes long, each ending with suggested follow-up tasks. All lessons exemplify a Teaching for Mastery approach to maths. The current plan is for a new batch of five lessons to be added every week.

This week's lessons are:

- [Key Stage 1 - Multiplication](#)
- [Lower Key Stage 2 - Fractions](#)
- [Upper Key Stage 2 - Fractions](#).

Images and representations used come from the [Primary Mastery Professional Development Materials](#) elsewhere on this website.

White Rose Mathematics Home Learning

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning>

White Rose Maths Team has prepared a series of five maths lessons for each year group from Year 1-8. Every lesson comes with a short video showing you clearly and simply how to help your child to complete the activity successfully. The worksheet does need to be printed though.

The next few weeks will vary from the material on BBC Bitesize. Thereafter the materials on BBC and White Rose home learning will be the same. A 12 week overview of learning is available. There are also weekly family challenges.

Oak National Academy

<https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom>

The **Oak National Academy**, is an online learning tool, which has been created by 40 teachers across the country to provide 180 classes for children from reception age to year 10 across a range of subjects including maths, arts and languages.

The online classroom offers free access to teachers delivering video lessons, quizzes and worksheets. All the lessons are ordered so children learn along a clear plan. New lessons and resources will be provided each week.

To see what is being taught this week, download the [plan](#) here.

There may be lessons and resources available which will support the plans you already have in place for home learning for your children. There are some [suggestions](#) for teachers and schools on how to make the most of this resource.

Oak National Academy will fit alongside other resources – such as BBC Bitesize – to offer a structure for the day for children until schools fully reopen.

Work is currently underway also to provide support for teachers working with pupils with additional needs, and teachers based in specialist settings. Next week, Oak National Academy hope to launch materials for pupils not able to access all aspects of what is currently being offered.

Letters and Sounds online lessons

From Monday 27 April, online phonics lessons are available from [Letters and Sounds for home and school](#)

Written and presented by phonics experts and funded by the Department for Education, the online lessons are designed to cover new phonics teaching that that children would have received over the summer term had they been in school. This resource is for use by teachers and parents who will find planning and teaching phonics challenging when schools are closed due to Covid-19.

Three sets of lessons will be available. One set for Reception and one for Year 1, based on where children are expected to be in their learning in the summer term. A third set of lessons focusses on areas children find the most challenging. A guidance film for parents to explain the basics of Phonics and how parents can support their child is also available.



As you can see, there has been a lot of work going on at a national level to support schools and families during the current situation. However, there is a fine line between support and pressure. Please remember you cannot replicate school at home. Have fun with learning and do things in small bursts, unless you are really enjoying yourself and then go for it!!!

Ten/fifteen minutes of a quality activity is better than two hours of frustration.

The bread is smelling really good by the way! I might take a photo if I'm allowed.

Have a good weekend.

Love, peace and joy to all.

Kay Bridson

P.S. There will be another edition of the Class Newsletters coming out next week, so please get in touch with your teachers!

