



Tel: 01722 322848 Fax: 01722 502992 Email: admin@bemerton-st-john.wilts.sch.uk Website: www.bemerton.com
 Head Teacher: Mr Alun Richards • Deputy Head: Mrs Claire Pearce

Friday 17th April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

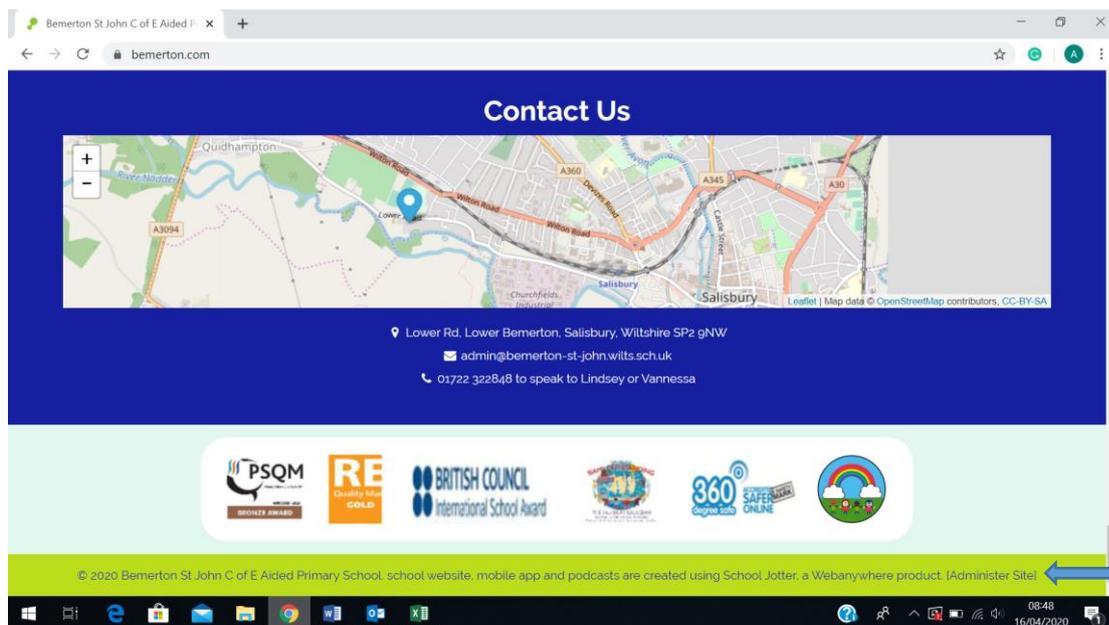
I hope you are all keeping safe and you had a peaceful time with your families over Easter. We miss your children a lot and it is a very strange time for all of us.

I am delighted to inform you that from this Monday (20th April 2020) our new online learning platform will be available to all Bemerton St John pupils.

The learning platform runs through our school website and each child has their own log in details, which will be texted to you tomorrow (Saturday). Please follow this link to log in:

<https://www.bemerton.com/>

At the bottom of the front page you will see (Administer site). Click on this and you will be able to use the log in details. If for whatever reason this fails to work, please get in touch with us at admin@bemerton-st-john.wilts.sch.uk.



When your child logs in, they will go to the 'Learn' section of the website; from here they can go to their class. The teachers have been working hard to devise, recreate and publish engaging lessons with sufficient challenge for all for every day of the week. Crucially, the teachers have ensured that the children have clear instructions and that the tasks require very little adult input. Of course, we'd love you to get involved too!



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The tasks set will take many forms:

Quizzes – which the child completes online.

Exercises – which provide the facility for the child to download a pre-prepared document, complete it as instructed and then attach it to send it back. Ideally, your child needs access to a computer or laptop which has Word installed. If this presents a problem, your child can produce a replica of what is being asked and take a photograph of it – uploading that instead. There is no expectation that the children have access to a printer.

Other activities will include: reading what the teacher has loaded for the lesson and making notes themselves on a piece of paper, often in preparation for a later lesson or other self-guided activities.

Every day has Maths, Writing and Reading tasks and there is a timetable on the front page of every class 'Learn' page for the children to see what lessons they need to do each day. The timetable will change every week to allow for all subjects over the course of two weeks. Here is what the front page of a class looks like:



All exercises and activities will be viewed by the teacher and a deadline is published with the task. I suggest you encourage your child to complete the work daily.

The expectation is that all children (unless you have informed us already that there is no computer available), will complete all of the work for every day. The teachers will be monitoring when work is returned. As a school, we are bound by the government to provide learning opportunities during school closures.

It is perhaps inevitable that there will be some 'teething problems' with this system. As you will all be learning how to manage this system at home, the staff at school will be too. Please bear with us – it will get easier as the days go by. Naturally, I will be reviewing how this is all working after a few weeks.

I am so relieved that we have found a system that not only allows the children to continue to learn and make progress; it also gives the children access to their teacher on a daily basis for support and guidance.

Yours sincerely,

Alun Richards