



Avonmouth CE Primary School Newsletter 6



20th April 2020

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[A message from Mrs McMahon](#)

I do hope that you and your families are safe and well.

This is indeed an unprecedented time. As the school remains closed for most children, we really hope that you are all well and we miss seeing the children in school. It is really important that we all continue to follow the Government's Staying at Home guidance in order to protect the NHS and to keep ourselves and our families safe.

In this newsletter, I have asked all the teachers to write a message for their classes – please see below. Teachers have also written more detailed class newsletters which are on the class pages of the school website.

The government have updated their advice to parents which includes information on how to keep your child safe online. It can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>.

Please do take care of your households, stay safe and well. We look forward to seeing you back in school when it is safe to do so.

If you want to contact us at school in the meantime, please do send us an email – we would be really pleased to hear from you.

[Safeguarding](#)

Safeguarding remains a priority for us as a school, as we continue to strive to ensure the safety and well-being of all our pupils. Even whilst the school remains closed, we continue to support families through different ways. This might be emails or phone calls, as well as regular (virtual) Safeguarding Team meetings.

You will have already received our first Safeguarding email and a second will be sent out later this week.

We have set-up a specific safeguarding email account: safeguarding.avonmouthp@bristol-schools.uk

Please do use this email account to directly contact one of the Safeguarding team (Mr Barlow, Miss Tector and Mrs McMahon). A member of the team will then get back to you either with an email or a phone call.

Details of other safeguarding phone numbers and services are also available on the school website in the Covid-19 section.

[Free School Meals](#)

If your child is eligible for Free School meals, you will know that we have moved from the packed lunch boxes to supermarket vouchers. These are emailed directly to parents and you can then use them in a range of different supermarkets.

From today, we will be using the Department of Education's voucher scheme through Edenred. If you have any questions or queries regarding the vouchers please do contact us via the school email account: avonmouth.p@bristol-schools.uk

If your circumstances have changed and you would like to apply for FSM further information can be found here: <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/schools-learning-early-years/free-school-meals> or email the school office who will be happy to help.

Home learning – send us your photos!

As we start term five, we continue with Home Learning. I expect by now, that you are settled in to a routine that works for you and your families. Thank you for everything you are doing to help your child with their learning at home. We appreciate this is a tricky time and different for everyone.

It is really important that children are continuing their learning at home – class teachers have prepared timetables of new learning for this week which you will find on the class pages. Please do try to ensure your child completes the English and Maths activities for each day.

The Department of Education has also put a list of resources and useful websites together for parents. Further information on this is available on the school website.

From today, BBC Bitesize website has also launched daily lessons for each year group which you may find useful.

SHARE YOUR HOME LEARNING ACHIEVEMENTS:

The school staff miss seeing you all in school and know that you will be doing lots of learning at home. Therefore, we have devised a way for us to continue to see what you have been learning and your achievements.

We have set up a new email account called: homelearning.avonmouthp@bristol-schools.uk It would be fantastic if parents and carers would like to email the school with photos of their children's achievements which we can then share on the school website class pages or on our twitter account.

If you would like to send something in, please make sure you follow these guidelines:

- Please put **FAO Teacher's name/Year group** in the subject line of the email – we can then make sure your email gets forwarded on to the class teacher.
- Remember to be careful about what else can be seen in the background of the photos you send in e.g. make sure you don't take the photo somewhere where you have personal details in the background such as addresses, full names etc.
- Only send one or two photos a week please – otherwise we may have too many to manage!
- Please ensure that you include in your email that you are happy for the photo to go on the class page so that we know we have your permission to share it. Any photos received without this will not be shared.

Once we have a collection of photos, class teachers will post some on the school website. Please note, we will not be able to respond/reply to emails sent in individually. If parents/carers have any questions for school staff, please continue to contact us in the usual way via the school email account: avonmouth.p@bristol-schools.uk

We are really looking forward to seeing your achievements!

Provision for children whose parents are key workers

If you are a key worker and need to access the childcare provision in school, we are able to support with this. We understand that work patterns may change and that parents may not need care every day or indeed every week. Therefore, please contact the school via the school email address by 9am on a Friday for a space for the following week – this will ensure we are able to arrange appropriate staffing levels.

In line with Government advice, all children who can be safely cared for at home should be, in order to limit the chance of the virus spreading.

MESSAGES FROM THE STAFF:

Nursery

Dear Nursery Boys and Girls,

We hope you are all well and have enjoyed Easter time at home with your families. I'm sure you all enjoyed eating your chocolate eggs – we know we did! We've been busy keeping safe with our families at home. It is really important for you to stay at home and keep yourselves safe too. Remember to wash your hands – "Tops and bottoms, in between, all around our hands, to keep them clean". We're still singing!

We are missing you all so much. We're really looking forward to seeing you and hearing about all the activities that you have managed to share with your families while keeping safe. You may have even completed some of the activities that we set for you. If you have, keep them safe so we can see them when we go back into school. New resources and activities are on our Nursery page for you to enjoy and have fun with learning at home. This term we are beginning by looking at Minibeasts. We know how much you all love looking at bugs in our garden!

Have fun at home. Keep playing, keep smiling and keep safe!

From Alison, Karen and Elliot

Reception

Hello Reception,

How are you all? We hope you have managed to have a go at some of the learning that we have put onto the website. You might have spotted some birds out of your windows or maybe you have managed to play some games with your families. It seems a long time since we were in school. We wonder if any of you have been looking for, and finding some of your phonic sounds in any of your books at home. You are all very clever and doing really well in your Reception class. It is fantastic that you now have a chance to show off how clever you are at home. Keep practising your sounds. We have made sure that you have different ones to remember every week. They are on the weekly timetable. Over the next few weeks we are hoping to learn more about bees, read some books and learn more about our families.

In Reception some of the most important things that we learn about are working together and finding out all about the world all around us. Whilst we are not at school we can continue to practise this. Opportunities to talk about what we see, hear, think and feel are all really important. Especially when the world seems a bit topsy-turvy. Keep chatting.

The website is updated every week. Please keep an eye on the activities that we suggest but also feel free to be creative and enjoy being at home, whatever that looks like for you.

From Miss Knowlson, Mrs Parrott and Miss Pearman

Year One

Dear Year 1 children,

I hope that you are all safe and well in your homes. I am well in my home, but I am missing being at school with you all. Won't it be great when we can be together again at school.

In the meantime there are lots of things you can do at home to keep learning and have fun. I have been thinking back to the 'Elephant and Piggie' stories (by Mo Willems) we were enjoying together at school. What would Elephant and Piggie do if they had to stay at home? I expect that they would still find lots of interesting things to do. Perhaps you could even make up a new Elephant and Piggie story of your own. What would Traction Man or Beach Time Brenda do? Maybe you could design some new suits for them and show me when we get back to school.

If you look with an adult at our Year 1 class page on the school website you will find some ideas and a plan for learning at home over the next few weeks. Most importantly, keep reading, writing, drawing and learning your number facts. Remember to keep moving and active too. Be kind and stay happy.

Thinking of you all,

Mr Plenty

Year Two

Dear Year 2,

I hope you all had a lovely Easter, that you are all well and keeping safe and enjoying spending time with your family.

There are new topics for this term's home learning. The Science topic this term is 'Animals, including humans'. You will be learning about how humans grow, the basic needs for animals and plants and the importance of exercise and eating healthily.

In geography, we will be exploring the seasons. In history we will be learning about bridges. We will also be learning about the artist Andy Goldsworthy and I hope you will enjoy recreating some of his work during your home learning. I'm looking forward to seeing all your brilliant work.

We are all missing being together in school but I hope you are all enjoying the home learning. I am looking forward to seeing you all again once we are back in school.

Take care,
Miss Judge

Year Three

Hello all the lovely people in Year 3!

I hope that you and your families are all fit and well, have had a lovely Easter Weekend and enjoyed the Easter break, even though it was a bit different from our normal holidays. My family and I attended an Easter service from the cathedral without even leaving the house!

I am really missing seeing your friendly, smiling little faces each day and supporting you directly with your learning. I hope the learning tasks that I have set so far have kept your learning muscles active and engaged. Look out for learning tasks this term that will link back to some of our previous investigations in Science as well as some very new challenges. Remember if there are any tasks that you are not able to download and print or you don't have an exercise book at home to do the tasks in, then you can complete the tasks on anything you do have.

I look forward to seeing you all again and hearing about what you have been doing with your time at home. Remember that while this is a very unusual time, and you might be frustrated about being stuck at home, this will all end and we will all be back together, supporting each other to be the best we can be. At home, keep being the kind, supportive and wonderful children I know you all are.

Stay safe and remember to smile,
Mr Land.

Year Four

Dear Year 4,

I hope you had a lovely Easter break and enjoyed the wonderful sunshine. I am sure that you have eaten lots of chocolate just like me.

We are beginning a new term and so I have created a Term 5 Newsletter containing information on each topic which you will find on our class page on the school website. I will continue to create and post weekly timetables containing home learning activities each week.

A timetable for Week 1 of Term 5 is already posted on the website so please begin the activities when you can. It is really important to complete the daily Maths, Literacy and Foundation tasks; it will help to give you a routine and something to keep you busy. I have planned activities that you should be able to complete on your own, as they are based on learning that we have already covered this year.

Parents - please do not worry about having to teach your child new skills. It is really important that you are there to encourage them to complete the work and to support them when necessary. I really appreciate everything that you are doing during these unusual times and please understand that if there is a specific task that your child is really struggling with, please just ignore it and have a go at completing one of the other activities on the class page.

Don't forget to go outside and exercise, remember to read every day and most importantly, try and enjoy your time at home.

Year 4, I miss you all and am really looking forward to seeing all of the fantastic work I am sure you have produced at home. Stay safe and keep smiling!

Miss Bryant

Dear Year Five,

As we begin what would have been the start of the summer term, this seems a good time to give you an update. I hope that you and your families are all safe and finding ways to manage. I expect that you are missing seeing friends in school.

I must say well done to you all for adapting to this new way of learning independently. I will continue to put weekly activity timetables on the Year 5 page on the school website, for you to follow. On top of practising times tables and regular reading and writing, remember how important daily exercise is for you. (See 'Keeping kids and families active' on the Y5 website page). If you have any problems with the online learning, your parents can get in touch with me via the school office email account.

Best wishes
Mr Korovilas

Year Six

Hi there Year 6 children,

I hope that you and your families are being able to stay safe and healthy. This is such a strange time for all of us teachers and we are missing you a lot. I am well - working from home, alongside my family. Mrs Webb is also fine but missing her grandchildren. Hopefully, you may have found some (safe) ways to be in touch with each other.

Have you been able to keep up with your learning at home by accessing the resources on the website? Have a look at the Term 5 Newsletter to see what we will be focussing on this term and the new weekly timetable. There is a mixture of activities so don't worry if you can't always get online, or you haven't got your revision books or pack with you – there will always be things on there you can do without these. One of the most important things you can do (and I am sure you will be able to guess what I'm going to say!) is ... READ! Find a quiet spot and escape into a book. I have read 4 so far (they were quite thick!) so I challenge you to read more than me by the time we meet again. Don't forget to do a book review every time you finish one.

Take care.

From Mrs Wood and Mrs Webb

Miss Tector – Inclusion Lead

Hello everyone, I hope you are well and coping in these unusual times and getting into some sort of new normal. I would like to share a little story with you.

Just before all of this started I was in my garden one day and noticed that there was lots of frog spawn all over the grass, path and flower beds. We had our pond filled in with soil last year and as frogs return to where they were tadpoles to lay their eggs, these frogs had come back to our garden to discover no pond! I was a bit upset about this because I love nature, as I'm sure you all know, so I had an idea... I found a large, shallow, plastic container in my garage and filled it with water. I then took a dustpan and brush and gently scooped up all the frogspawn and put it in the container.

Now, I hadn't expected anything to happen but I really hoped at least one or two tadpoles would be saved and hatch. However, I now have about 20-30 tadpoles in my container who are growing, wriggling and thriving every day!

My family and I love going outside each day to see what the tadpoles are doing, we fish out any dead leaves or insects and top the water up regularly. I can't wait for them to grow into frogs, I think I will have to make a new pond in my garden or put my container out every year so when these tadpoles come back as frogs they will have somewhere their eggs.

Miss Tector