



Avonmouth CE Primary School Newsletter 6



Friday 8th January 2021

Head Teacher: Mrs Jessica Peach

Website: www.avonmouthp.co.uk

Email: avonmouth.p@bristol-schools.uk

Phone: [0117 9030280](tel:01179030280)

Dear Parents/Carers.

Firstly a happy new year to you all. I know this is not the start to 2021 that any of us would have wished for but I would like to thank you all for the support that you have shown this week. We have managed to open the nursery to the children that had already started with us (and hope to get those due to start with us in January in as soon as possible), opened our provision for children whose parents are Critical Workers or who are Vulnerable, and have begun planning for delivering remote learning. Thank you responding so quickly to our requests this week.

Critical Worker Provision.

The government have updated the list of critical workers for this time of lockdown <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>. We have to keep the number of people on the site to a minimum and teachers will be providing online learning so therefore we may need to check that parents are critical workers in line with the new list. If we have already offered you a place, please could you confirm that you are still eligible for this provision.

Free School Meals and Food Bank

If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals then these will continue to be provided for you during the lockdown. We are expecting parcels to be ready to go Tuesday 12th January and will be in contact with you if you are eligible for these. If your circumstances have changed, please do contact us as you may now be able to register for these. <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

If you find that you are struggling financially to provide food, nappies or toiletries in these unprecedented times, please know that we are here for you. The food bank is not just for people in receipt of benefits and will help anyone that is in need. If you need help with accessing this please contact us and we will support you.

UWE Students

You may notice on the online videos a couple of unfamiliar faces. We have been joined by two students from UWE for this term and we look forward to working with them even if it is remotely!

Value for the term

The value for the term is **ENDURANCE**. This feels a particularly apt at this time when we may be feeling worried about the length of the lockdown ahead.

The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Deuteronomy 31:8

Online provision.

Everyone learning from home will have a pack of work that is designed to last two weeks. Within these packs are login details for google classroom. Google classroom will allow teachers to post video lessons, work, and quizzes for all the children. We will also be providing some live sessions for children to say hello to their friends and their teacher, to ask questions, and to hear a story. These sessions will be timetabled so that no siblings have to be online live at the same time. They will be around 15 minutes long. We would like to see children in these sessions at least once a week so that we can continue to be a school community. If, for whatever reason, children have been unable to be in a live session for a week, staff will make contact with you via telephone.

Our aim is to provide packs of resources once a fortnight. These resources will be used by the teachers during their recorded lessons. We will be in contact when the next pack is ready for collection. Children can submit learning, via google classrooms, or show work during live sessions so that they can receive feedback from their teacher. To keep the whole community safe online, we will be sending out a remote learning agreement next week. Some videos have already been uploaded and more will follow next week. Please comment on these videos so that we know that you have seen them. The live sessions will commence the week beginning the 18th January - details of timings will be sent out next week.

We have a duty to provide learning for all of the children and we want to keep our school community together as much as possible - providing the learning closely related to that the children would have been having in class. However, I do not want this to cause any extra stress or pressure for families. You and your child may choose not to engage with everything that is sent home. Please do not feel guilty if this is the case. Whilst we would encourage you to try and do as much as you can, individual circumstances at home may make this challenging. We are here to support you – you are not alone. If children have questions about their learning, or need help, teachers will be available between 9 and 3 via google classrooms.

We are aware that online provision may cause concerns around access. We have been able to order some internet access (4G routers and laptops) and will be providing these to families that have no, or limited access. Mobile phone companies are also giving extra data that parents can request. You will need to have no fixed broadband in your house and will need to be connected to a provider that is offering this deal:

- EE
- Three
- Sky Mobile
- SMARTY
- Tesco Mobile
- Virgin Mobile
- 02
- Smartie
- Sky Mobile

More providers may join the scheme soon.

The amount of data available to families will vary by provider. Data will be increased until the end of July 2021. You cannot apply for this directly and will need to come through the school. Please let us know if this is something we can help you with.

Children are able to access google classrooms on both the X-Box and PS4 details of how to do this are attached. The BBC are also providing lessons through the television next week.

Extension to the building

Some good news! The new office extension is now complete. This has created a secure entrance for visitors and provides a welcoming environment. Currently, due to lockdown restrictions, only staff will access the school via the entrance but we plan to have a grand opening ceremony as soon as we possibly can.



And Finally,

I would like to thank the whole community for making me feel so welcome in my first week with you. I look forward to meeting all of you very soon and I will be posting Collective Worship and story videos to google classroom for you all.

Mrs Jessica Peach

Head Teacher