

DRIFFIELD JUNIOR SCHOOL - Tuesday 19th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers



Firstly I'd like to say hello to all those children who are currently learning at home. We are all missing you so much and hope it won't be too long before you are all back in school, full time, and things are a bit more like normal.

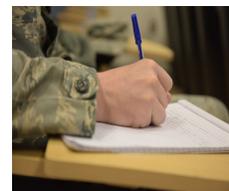
Parents and carers at home, you are doing an amazing job in challenging circumstances and I have been so impressed with the examples of fantastic work and effort that I have seen across all year groups. I totally understand how difficult things are right now with families juggling all sorts of pressures, but I am delighted that home learning has been given a high priority by you all.

Thanks for all you are doing; it'll really help your child upon his/her return to school and will have ensured that previously learned work has not been forgotten, as well as new skills/knowledge being learned.



For junior aged pupils, the Government has said that 4 hours (minimum) of remote learning should take place each day at home. In my original letter I said 3 hours but this is actually for infant pupils. As you know, on Google Classroom, teachers have planned daily lessons in maths, English and other subjects. Done thoroughly, there is easily enough planned to cover 4 hours. For those

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wanting to do more work, there are links to other activities that children can select. We realise that, on occasions, it may be very difficult for your child to be able to complete 4 hours' work due to your specific circumstances but we ask that, as a minimum, maths and English lessons are completed as these are our priorities. It may be that the other planned lessons can then be caught up on later in the week. Thanks.



If there are any home learning problems, please don't hesitate in speaking to a member of staff when they call or you can send a message to your child's teacher via Class Dojo. There is also the option to ring the school office and we can get the most appropriate member of staff to get in touch and help you.

Recognising that children are spending quite a lot of time looking at screens (which includes gaming, phone use etc as well as their school work) we really want children to spend some time doing activities that do not involve a screen. If you haven't done so up to now, please make sure your child gets involved in some of the more practical activities suggested and, importantly, he/she gets outside for some daily fresh air and exercise (even though the weather isn't always great).



Teachers and support staff will continue to ring home to check all is well and to offer any support with home learning and/or pupil welfare. Maintaining these home/school links is absolutely essential for the children and I know many of you are very appreciative of the help that's on offer.

Starting this week, to allow the home learning staff quality time to liaise with each other and with me/Mrs Dixon, they will not be available to respond to children's work, parental queries etc on a Friday afternoon from 1.30pm onwards. For anything really important, however, parents/carers can contact the school office by ringing 01377 253371.

Like me, I'm sure you're all desperate for the pandemic to get to a more manageable point. With the vaccination program well and truly underway and testing for our school staff just around the corner, perhaps the light at the end of the tunnel is getting a little closer. Let's hope so.

Thanks again for all your support and please stay safe.

Yours truly,

Linda Laird

Headteacher