



**DODFORD FIRST SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER**
Every Day, a Learning Journey

Fockbury Road.
Dodford,
Bromsgrove, B61 9AW
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Headteacher: Mrs Lisa Parkes

Message from Mrs Parkes

It was lovely for myself and the teachers to speak to so many of you this week. We have heard about all sorts of wonderful things that the children are doing at home, accessing lots of the work set/suggested by the class teachers, children enjoying their topic work and the online platform materials. Please look back at previous emails and newsletters for the lists of online resources that are available to you as a parent to help and support your child with their learning.

Some of you were worrying about the amount of work you were doing with your children at home or even if you were doing it 'the right way'. Please remember that these are unprecedented times and parents and households are in different situations due to the lockdown. If you are trying to work from home or are going to work then what you can do with your child may look very different to a parent who is at home and able to give their support throughout the day. Try and find activities which the children can attempt independently which can be an audio book, some drawing or painting, practising their handwriting or playing educational games and mix these into their daily routine alongside work which may need adult support.

One of our key messages has been to try and establish a different routine on 'school days' to the weekend, so that days are varied and children do not lose sight of how a 'normal' week runs. Try to draw up a timetable (children like routine) where part of the day is structured but remember that brain breaks need to be built in and learning will not happen in hourly chunks like it would in a classroom. At the same time there will be days when your child will not be engaged however hard you try and this is okay too. They will have 'good' and 'bad' days just like all of us!

Online safety

Can we remind parents that although we setting lots of work which is online based, please be mindful of how much screen time your child is having each day. If they are learning online for a big chunk of the day then reduce the amount of screen time they have playing games or watching videos etc!

There is a lot of support available to keep your child/ren safe online. Below are some useful links to help parents and carers:

- Thinkyouknow (advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online)
- Internet matters (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- Parent info (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- LGfL (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- Net-aware (support for parents and careers from the NSPCC)

Upcoming dates for your diary

School closed for bank holiday —
Friday 8th May

Half term break—Monday 25th May—
Friday 29th May

School reopens—Monday 1st June

CLUBS THIS HALF TERM

Monday—

Tuesday—

Wednesday—

Wednesday—

Friday—

ATTENDANCE

Wrens %

Robins (1) %

Robins (2) %

Owls (3) %



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Home Learning

Class home learning newsletters are attached to this email and can also be found on the school website, these contain work set by the teachers for the forthcoming week. When you access the newsletters please be aware that they are over several pages this week, so keep on scrolling down!

Captain (Colonel) Tom

Picture News, a resource we use in school to deliver assemblies and teach PSHE have produced a special pack based around the wonderful fundraising and inspiration that is Captain Tom. Please take a look at the resource as it is a great way to talk about his achievement, the times we are living in and reflect on how doing something so small can have such a big impact on so many!

NED

NED appears at the end of each of the class newsletters this week. He is central to our ethos and mental health and wellbeing at the school, encouraging the children to have a growth mindset and see the positive in everything that they do. Please get your child to talk to you about what the messages mean and how they have demonstrated these during their time at home since the lockdown!

CAMHS

CAMHS have produced a range of resources to support families to cope with the stress and uncertainty of these times. Please follow the link below if you feel this may be of benefit to you or your child. There is a resource pack especially designed for under 12's which helps them deal with and manage their feelings.

https://www.camhs-resources.co.uk/?fbclid=IwAR2UyP--BuXWS9irEgXRBjkmoXR3JAEbMD4KZyH1NuNhXC_7MK_PIJU64ng

And finally..

The Book of Hopes: Words and Pictures to comfort, inspire and entertain children in lockdown

This is a collection of short stories, poems, essays and pictures from more than 110 children's writers and illustrators for you and your children to enjoy.

www.literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/book-hopes