

Although autumn has properly set in and the weather is very mixed, we would still like the children to have as much outside time as possible. So, on the days they come in PE kit (Tuesdays and Thursdays) please send them in joggers or leggings as we are getting some very cold knees in the Academy at the moment! Thank you.

LEARNING

Maths - this week Years 1 and 2 have been shown how to use NumBots to develop their Maths skills. NumBots is an online game (also available as an app) that helps to improve rapid recall of number bonds, addition facts and subtraction facts. It is designed to become more difficult the more it is played. There are many levels to unlock. Children can earn coins that they 'spend' in the Custom Shack and as a result change the look of their robot. Log ins have been glued in the back of each child's reading record. Please have a go and see your child's teacher if you have any issues. Playing NumBots will now be part of the weekly homework so please play the game at least once a week.

Home Learning Survey – thank you to all those who have already completed the survey sent out last Friday, we are very grateful for your support. In case you haven't had a chance to do it yet, I'm attaching the link again: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=IC5gjOGQmU6Kpp86NJhsFwniouk4AzdEvYQPT5BY1LpUQ1pYWkVHVzKxQzcyTFBZQ09DOUQ5U0JMNi4u> Thank you for your help.

Year Six Transfer to Secondary School - A reminder that the deadline for applications is **31st October 2020**. Go to www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/transferschool for further information.

Rednock – a virtual open event is now available on the Rednock School website – www.rednockschool.org.uk This includes an interview with the Headteacher and Heads of Department, you can listen to what some of their students have to say about life at Rednock School, there is a virtual tour and there are responses to frequently asked questions. If you have any other questions, you can contact the transition team at transition@rednockschool.org.uk

KLB – has created a dedicated webpage for those who are considering their school for 2021 – www.klbschool.org.uk If you go to Parents – joining KLB 2021 - you will find a host of videos to help you.

Marling School – a virtual open day is available on the Marling website – www.marling.gloucs.sch.uk

Stroud High School – is holding a live online open evening on **Thursday 15th October**. If you are interested, you will need to register for this event by going to www.stroudhigh.gloucs.sch.uk

GENERAL

Maternity Leave



Mrs Elliott in Magnolia Class will be starting her Maternity Leave on Friday 23rd October and we wish her and her family all the very best.

Holidays During Term Time

Whilst I realise absence through illness is unavoidable, I do have concerns about children missing school through holidays and the impact this makes on their learning. Children also need to be present for important assessments throughout the year – **there are particularly important tests for Year Six and Year Two in May and Year One in June. I cannot, therefore, authorise any requests for family holidays except in exceptional circumstances.**

Contact – if you need to make contact with us about anything, please call the school office between 8.30am and 4.30pm on 01453 542304 or email admin@dursley.gloucs.sch.uk However, we have now also set up a dedicated Coronavirus email address. This can be used if you need to contact us about anything Covid-19 related outside school hours – coronavirus@dursley.gloucs.sch.uk.

Social Distancing - Before or after dropping your children off at school, we would ask you not to congregate either on the school site or by the gates or paths outside it. Parents are finding it hard to have sufficient social distance to feel safe and secure. Thank you

Half Term – we break up on Friday 23rd October and half term is week commencing 26th October, **returning to school on Monday 2nd November.**

School Association

Christmas Cards and Gifts – the children will be bringing home their Christmas card designs this week. Please return your child's picture even if you're not making an order – every child receives a free card with their picture on it, but only if the picture is returned. Please note, the picture **must be returned by next Friday 16th October** at the latest – apologies for the incorrect date on the letter that came home. Each child's picture **must go back separately to their class teacher (not the school office)** with the **correct money** only – please don't combine siblings. Please make **cheques payable to Dursley Primary Academy School Association.**

Virtual 50/50 Bucket – all participants must be parents, guardians or staff at Dursley C of E Primary Academy or Treetops Nursery. The winner will receive 50% of the membership fee taken that month and the remainder will be used to help fund equipment and resources for school. Thank you for your support and good luck!!

Take a look at what we're all about on <https://www.facebook.com/dursleycofeprimaryschool/association>.

Paul Daniels

Together we shine brightly

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