



St Thomas & St Anne's CE Primary School

Hanwood, Shrewsbury, SY5 8JN

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~ Caring, growing and learning together ~

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Dear Parent/Carer

A huge well done to all the children and families who have already engaged in the learning activities set by the class teachers here at school. I can fully appreciate how challenging it can be trying to balance working from home and supporting children at home in their learning and we have been amazed at how quickly parents and families have been able to 'pick up the reins' given the short notice we all had; the work we have already seen at school has been fantastic, thank you for your support with this!

The expectations for remote learning have changed greatly from the school closure period earlier last year and we hope that Seesaw will provide an important link between your child's class teacher and families and a direct route to share resources.

Please remember there is no expectation that your child completes the activities using Seesaw itself (this can be a little fiddly!) or to print worksheets that are shared by your child's class teacher. It is perfectly acceptable to use Seesaw to simply view the worksheets/activities/videos and complete the activities on paper and upload a photo.

We know that for lots of children this is a very different way of working and completing activities on paper is much more familiar to them, especially the younger children.

If you would like an exercise book for your child to complete tasks in, please contact school and we will make arrangements for you to get one.

During this lockdown period, **it is expected that children log onto Seesaw every day, complete activities set by their class teacher and upload a response using Seesaw.**

In order for teachers to plan accordingly for the next day, please can you/your child make sure of the following:

- That the responses are uploaded the day that the activity has been set (where possible);
- If using a photograph of the completed work that it is clear;
- For most subjects, an example of the work completed is uploaded (rather than responding with 'completed').
- However, we appreciate there may be some lessons where no recording is necessary and therefore a note to say you have completed the lesson is then fine.

In order to fulfil our safeguarding and educational responsibilities, staff may contact you via the telephone if work is regularly not responded to. The teachers' learning plans are incremental and each lesson builds on from one another therefore it would be best for the children if the lessons were completed in order and ideally none missed. If you think your child will not be able to complete the lessons set for that day, due to illness or other unforeseen circumstances, please contact the school office to let us know in the way you would normally report an absence.

Most of the learning activities we will be using are recorded video lessons taken from Oak National Academy and White Rose Maths. These should all contain clear teaching and small steps of learning that closely match what learning would look like in the classroom here at school.

We hope that after a little practice the familiarity of these resources will allow the children to access these with some independence rather than parents having to facilitate the whole learning experience. Teachers will set work each day with the afternoon sessions being available from late morning. Please see below an outline of the activities set:

- EYFS (Nursery/Reception) - some directed pre-recorded sessions and play-based activities linked to a weekly theme.
- KS1 (Years 1 and 2) - 3 hours (on average) of learning per day to include: a maths session, English (including phonics) session and a topic/wider curriculum subjects lesson.
- KS2 (Years 3/4/5/6) - 4 hours (on average) of learning per day to include: a maths session, English session and topic/wider curriculum subjects lessons.

If you are having difficulty in accessing Seesaw - or any of the resources sent out - please contact us at school. We have access to a couple of devices available to loan from the DfE - if your child does not have access to a suitable device. It is also possible that we can support with internet connection. We will be making contact with all families who have yet to respond to Seesaw to see what further support you may require.

Please find a link to our remote learning policy [on our website](#) for more information. If you would like further support using Seesaw, please contact the school office and a member of the team will contact you to offer some further support. Alternatively, this may be a useful guide and answer some questions about how to use it: [ICT with Mr P Seesaw Guide for parents \(Youtube\)](#).

With heartfelt thanks for helping us to help your children and please keep in contact with us at school. We do understand that home learning can present lots of challenges for you as families. The most important thing in all of this is that you and your children stay safe and healthy. The children made fantastic progress in the autumn term and they will again.

Never has our school motto of "caring, growing and learning together" been so fitting; we are here to help and support you all, so please keep in touch!

Hannah McGrath
Acting Headteacher

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