

King Athelstan Primary School

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Headteacher: Emily Newton

8th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, we would like to say a huge thank you to the whole school community for accessing and assisting your child with the use of Google Classroom this week. Children who are working on Google Classroom at home have been getting to know it well and are working hard. The whole school team have also been working hard to answer all your questions and solve technical problems, however please contact the school office at any time if you need further support.

By now, we would expect that your child will have accessed their online learning and staff have been phoning if your child has not registered on Google Classroom to offer you support. Thank you to the families who have informed us they do not have access to a device and have filled in the Google Form related to this. We will be in touch next week regarding your request. If you have no access to any device at home, please email the office on admin@kingathelstan.rbksch.org so we can send you a Google Form to complete so that we can prioritise those most in need of support. Do remember that the content can be accessed using mobile phones and some games consoles, including Playstation and Xbox One (see previous communications for details). If you are accessing Google Classroom on a mobile device you will need to download the Google Meet app separately to Google Classroom in order to access this feature.

Government expectations of how we deliver online learning have significantly changed from the first lockdown, and continue to be updated (revised guidance issued yesterday confirmed the expectation of 3 hours daily for children in KS1 and increased this to 4 hours daily for those in KS2). We have worked hard to ensure that our updated offer fully reflects the new expectations and will continue to do so. We recognise that this amount of time will simply not be feasible for some families (particularly those working full time from home) and, where this is the case, we would strongly encourage you to prioritise completion of English (reading/phonics/writing) and maths.

Your child is expected to upload their work to Google Classroom every day. Please see the parent guide attachment that was sent earlier this week for further information on Google Classroom. Some children have chosen to print the work out or work on paper and upload a photograph of this work to the assignment. This is absolutely fine if this approach works best for your family circumstances. There are also helpful videos for parents/carers on each Classroom which we will keep adding to help with technical issues as and when they arise, so please take a look. Please find attached the parent/carer information we have sent out regarding Google Classroom as well as the following links to videos uploaded to each classroom below:

<https://youtu.be/IgS-hoSIjnw>

<https://youtu.be/STRqCq-yVaQ>

If you need further technical support please do not hesitate to get in touch. We are also continuing to add other resources which we hope you may find useful to the classrooms, such as



this week's lockdown social story. The Senior Leadership Team will endeavour to ensure there is a pre-recorded assembly provided at least weekly during this period of remote learning for pupils in KS1 and KS2 who would usually attend assembly in school. We will also continue with our weekly celebration of children's positive attitude and progress through our virtual Achievement Assembly. We will begin by celebrating the work of those children in school but in future weeks we will be looking to praise the efforts of those learning from home.

Teachers are working hard to make the learning fun, interesting and as interactive as possible. As well as planning the new learning for Google Classroom, pre-recording videos, facilitating live Google Meets and assessing work, teachers are continuing to attend virtual meetings during and after school hours. I am sure you will agree that they are doing a fantastic job juggling all the demands of this new way of working. They will always endeavour to assess work handed in by 3pm before 5pm that evening as well as respond to comments left on work, however this may not always be possible due to other workload commitments on particular occasions, so please bear with them. You are very welcome to submit learning after the 3pm deadline if your family circumstances mean that your child is completing work later in the day - this should be responded to in the following days.

The live 'Google Meet' sessions this week have been very successful and it has been a great tool for each class to be together virtually. We are pleased that we have also been able to facilitate joining these Meets for most children who are currently attending school. We have purchased new technology this week to enable us to ensure full participation for these children in the coming days, to help them stay connected with their peers at home. Below is an updated Google Meet timetable. The additional technology has allowed us to condense the previous timetable, which we hope will make the timings accessible to as many as possible. Each class will have the opportunity to meet twice a week for a live Story Time (all classes) and once a week for Circle Time (Reception upwards). These times and days are now set for the rest of this half term. Teachers will remind children about the time of their live meetings on the class stream.

Time	Year	Class	Days
09:20 (20mins)	N	Klee AM	Tuesday & Thursday
09:40 (20mins)	R	Kusama	Monday, Wednesday and Friday
		Nelson	
10:00 (30mins)	1	Van Gogh	Monday, Tuesday and Friday
		O'Keefe	
10:30 (30mins)	2	Hockney	Monday, Wednesday and Friday
11:00 (30mins)	3	Cassatt	Monday, Wednesday and Friday
		Da Vinci	
11:30 (30mins)	2	Matisse	Monday, Wednesday and Friday
12:00 (30mins)	4	Wiley	Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
		Mehretu	
1:00 (20mins)	N	Klee PM	Tuesday & Thursday
1:20 (30mins)	6	Kahlo	Monday, Wednesday and Friday
		Riley	
1:50 (30mins)	5	Dali	Monday, Wednesday and Friday
		Warhol	

We appreciate the huge amount of pressure that online learning places on families and we really do appreciate all the work you are doing with your child. Please remember, if you need any support, get in touch with us and also make sure you are being kind to yourself. King Athelstan really is a great community and I am proud to be part of it.

Have a restful weekend and we look forward to seeing you all virtually on Monday.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lucy Mastrocola". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter 'L' being particularly large and stylized.

Lucy Mastrocola

Deputy Headteacher