

# NEWSLETTER

01/05/20

### This week's Home Learning Update

This week Class 2 and Mr. McGurk have been trialling using the Pupil Area of our website. They are enjoying the more interactive home learning experience between children and teachers. In the Pupil Area children will find all their home learning, have a conversation with each other and their teacher, create a scrapbook of photos to share. From next Monday (4th May), all children from Year I to Year 6 will access their home learning in the Pupil Area. Teachers will aim to monitor the home learning and responses at least once during the school day from Monday to Friday during term time. Reception children will continue to share their children's home learning with Mrs. Barclay using TAPESTRY. In order to set your child up on the Pupil Area, parents need to use their own parent log in to the School Spider app. The app enables access to the school website.

- To set up your parent login SEE INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHED 'A GUIDE TO OUR SCHOOL APP'
- Log in to School Spider
- Read the instructions about how to set up your child in the Pupil Area (available in your child's Class page on the website)
- Enter your child's user name and TEMPORARY password (provided on the above instructions)
- IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT PARENTS CHANGE THEIR CHILD'S TEMPORARY PASSWORD SO IT IS CONFIDENTIAL AND NO ONE ELSE CAN LOG IN AS THEIR CHILD
- CHILDREN'S PASSWORDS CAN BE CHANGED IN THE PARENT AREA. REMEMBER TO DO THIS READY FOR NEXT MONDAY!!

Over the last two weeks, we introduced White Rose Mathematics daily lessons. These provide children and parents with a film clip with teaching input followed by an activity for children to complete and answers for parents to check. This week White Rose have informed schools that from next Monday, only the film clips will be available on their website. In addition, they have told teachers that their maths materials will be used on BBC Bitesize Daily. We will not be sure how this works until next Monday so for next week's Maths home learning PARENTS SHOULD FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS PROVIDED BY EACH TEACHER IN THE PUPIL AREA.

Teachers will review the content of both White Rose Mathematics daily lessons and BBC Bitesize Daily lessons at the end of next week then agree a way forward with Maths home learning from the week beginning Monday I I<sup>th</sup> May.

The Pupil Area has the potential to be a really constructive tool for home learning that we plan to carry on using regularly when school re-opens to all pupils. It is a tool for pupil use, any queries parents may have should continue to use the normal communication channels of text or email.

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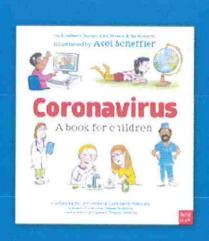
Miss. Watson

Businesses Avel Schoffler

## Coronavirus

A book for children

FREE TO DOWNLOAD



Axel Scheffler, illustrator of Gruffalo fame, has been involved in creating a brand new book called 'Coronavirus - A Book for Children. This book is available for free online at the website of publisher Nosy Crow. It has been written in a very accessible and straightforward way to provide children with information about coronavirus and explain why it is having an impact on their lives. Axel Scheffler has added his well-known illustrations to this factual book. I have downloaded the book here for you to read.

Parents can find further resources to use on the class page

'Supporting your children's well-being during school closure.'

#### Applying for free school meals

Have you recently become eligible for universal credit due to changing employment circumstances? This may mean that your child/children are also eligible for free school meals. When you apply for universal credit at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/universal-credit">www.gov.uk/universal-credit</a> remember to check whether this includes eligibility for free school meals. If your children are entitled to free school meals, let us know by text or email. The government have just introduced a system of free school meal vouchers for parents to spend in supermarkets while schools are closed. As soon as we know your children are eligible, we can organise these vouchers.

#### Keeping in touch

You can continue to keep in touch with us either by text or email. Both will be checked daily during the week. Please do not phone as the office will not be consistently staffed.

#### **IMPORTANT UPDATE**

After May half-term, we will no longer be using the Teacher2Parent text service.

Home school contact will be via the School Spider app linked to the school website.

To set up your parent login SEE INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHED

'A GUIDE TO OUR SCHOOL APP'

Our next step for making the most of our School Spider app, will be setting up online payments for school dinners, trips and music lessons.

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE SET UP THE SCHOOL SPIDER APP ON YOUR PHONE! If you need any help with this, please contact Mrs Robinson.

#### CHILDCARE UPDATE

Childcare at school will be available for key worker children on both Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May and every day during w/c Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May (half-term)



You may have seen the Council's media messages about how we are helping to support vulnerable residents and businesses during this pandemic. We are aware that some families are receiving food vouchers but we also want families to be aware of the support on offer from the Council and that we can refer families (or individuals) to a network of volunteers to help with things such as collecting shopping, medicines and telephone befriending services. We are also on hand to help advise on things such as benefits, waste collection and other council services.

Details of how to get this help are:

Lancaster City Council has set up a 7-day telephone and email help line to make sure people can get reliable support:

- by phone 01524 582000
- by email <u>customerservices@lancaster.gov.uk</u> (for residents)
- or email econdev@lancaster.gov.uk (for businesses)

The phone lines are open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm and every Saturday and Sunday between 10am and 3pm. The hours are being kept under review and we may extend them in the future.

The council has also launched a partnership with Morecambe Bay Foodbank to co-ordinate and deliver emergency food parcels to vulnerable people across the district and they are available to anyone who is struggling during these unprecedented times and because the circumstances people may now find themselves in are unprecedented, I would urge you, to communicate widely, that there is no shame or loss of dignity in accessing the support, we are seeing many families coming forward who under normal circumstances manage very well, we are trying to reach out to as many households as possible.

A new website, <u>www.lancasterdistrictcovid19.org.uk</u>, has been created for agencies to refer someone for emergency food. If anyone needs help, they can find the contact details of people and organisations who can refer them. If they don't have access to the internet they can telephone the food hub on 01524 932001.

In addition to the regular Community Offers Bulletin that we are sending out, Lancaster City Council have a dedicated website (link below) where people can find out how to get emergency food, business grants, business rate relief and advice and guidance.

http://www.lancaster.gov.uk/environmental-health/emergency-planning/coronavirus

## A Guide to Our School App

Some of you may not be aware that we have a school app linked to our website. The app is a brilliant way of accessing recent news, gallery, calendar and blog posts.

Here is a guide on how to get the app and how to use it to obtain information quickly and easily!

The app is free to download from Google Play Store or Apple App Store; Search 'School Spider' and download the app; Once you have installed the app, use the drop down to select 'Archbishop Hutton's V C Primary School'.

The homepage will show several coloured boxes:-

Parent Dashboard – Not applicable at the moment as we do not send messages through School Spider.

Latest News - Open this tab to see any 'news' items from school.

Latest Gallery – Open this tab to see photographs and information from recent events.

Latest Blog – Open this tab to see Class and Headteacher's blogs relating to events in class and school.

Latest Event – Open this tab to see the school calendar of events from now until the end of the school year; this is regularly updated and has copies of letters/posters attached if applicable.

Latest Message – Not applicable at the moment as we do not send messages through School Spider (more info to follow next year on this messaging service).

Once you have opened any of the above tabs, you will initially see the latest entry so use the back arrow in the top left hand corner of the screen to see more info; to return to the homepage click on the home symbol in the top left hand corner of the screen.

The icons at the bottom of the screen can also be clicked to get to News, Gallery, Blogs, Events and Dashboard.

The Events page is great as a quick reference to see what is coming up in school and when; you can also look at letters sent home on here if you have misplaced yours or never received it!

I would urge you all to get our school app if you haven't already as it really is full of useful information and extremely easy to use. If you have any problems or need any help or further guidance, I am happy to help.

Sarah Robinson