



THE GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
The Catholic Diocese of Northampton
"Following Jesus, The Good Shepherd, in all we say and do"

Wednesday, 13 January 2021

To All Parents Home Learning

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you all so much for your persistence. We understand that a number of you are using TEAMS for the first time and it takes a while to get used to. Thank you to those of you who have been in touch with feedback. This is really helpful.

We know for a lot of parents Purple Mash and IXL are enough to work on with the children and for some parents, the idea of being thrown into live home learning is a bit daunting to say the least. We as teachers continue to be daunted by it every day! This is not how we trained. We all became teachers because we love being with children.

The one thing parents commented on through the last lockdown was that children missed seeing and hearing their teachers voice and seeing and hearing their friends. By introducing live learning, we are able to keep the children in contact with their class and their teacher. They still feel connected.

It is also really important for parents to understand not all teachers are at home. Teachers are in school and some are teaching the children on site and the children at home at the same time to ensure no one misses the lesson content. This has posed many challenges, including terrible WiFi on site which has thrown teachers in and out of Teams. Open Reach (our broadband provider) are on the case and we will hopefully be able to improve this in the weeks ahead. Please do not worry if you or we lose connection. At this point, we are just extremely grateful that you have tried!

During this week we will be phoning families who are struggling to engage with the learning so that we can find out what we can do to support you. We know there are a large number of families who have children in multiple settings, GCSE, A Level, Year 6 and 1 and maybe only one device and so we are trying to support families as best we can to access some form of learning.

Should it all become so overwhelming, please stop and take some time away! Read a book, watch a film, and then gather yourself to begin again. BBC have created a timetable of learning activities and Oak Academy have some great lessons. The children also access to IXL and Purple Mash so there is more than enough for them to do.



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This time is also a great opportunity to just read with your child and have your child read to you. For your own mental health and well-being and your child's you need to work at a pace which works for you and your family. Please do contact us for further support if you need it.

We are absolutely blown away by the large number of parents and children who are attending our 'Live' lessons! But we know many of you are still working from home and have had to work around your own work requirements. All we can do is just to do the best possible in our own circumstances, that is all that can be expected of each and everyone one of us.

You are doing a sterling job and we are very grateful!

Thank you once again for your continuing support and understanding.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Dodds
Headteacher



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