**P1/2A Term 4 Newsletter – May 2020**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Unbelievably we are now into our final term of the school year, although definitely not in the way that any of us anticipated. It was lovely to speak to you all this week, to catch up on all your news and ensure that everyone is keeping safe and healthy. Thankfully the weather has been on our side and it was lovely to hear that you are taking full advantage of it.

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for your support and patience while we all got up to speed with delivering learning in a very different way. This sudden change brings with it many different challenges for families who are having to quickly adapt and balance the pressures of home working, caring for others and supporting learning too. It’s important to ensure that we have a happy home environment at this moment in time and the right balance for each family will obviously look very different. Many parents are also key workers, which brings additional challenges for their families too. However, I would like to take this time to say a big thank you to them and the amazing work they do.

I will continue to communicate and share learning activities with you all using our class Glow page. If there is a need to communicate directly with any of the children or share access login details for online resources, then this will be done using the children’s Glow e-mail address. Any e-mails can be accessed using the outlook tile on the main glow page. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions or just wish to share some exciting news, my e-mail address is gw14mcdonaldjanelle@glow.sch.uk.

I will continue to upload three tasks each day which will consist of a literacy task, a numeracy task and also one from another curricular area. There will be a mixture of practical activities, written activities and online tasks too. The activities being set will continue to revise learning that children are already familiar with but may encourage them to apply their learning in a different way. We will also have Miss Sang popping onto our page on a Thursday so share some great outdoor learning activities with you too. As previously stated, please don’t feel that there are any expectations that you must complete any, or all, of the activities shared. The learning activities are there to be used when/how they best suit your family; this will be different for everyone.

If you wish to share your child’s work you can either upload it to their pupil folder or e-mail it to me, using the address above. Although it is lovely to see the work and activities that the children are completing at home, please don’t feel that there are any expectations that you must do this. It is also lovely just to stay in touch and I have loved receiving photographs showing missing teeth, pictures of things you have found when out and about or photographs of you enjoying birthday celebrations or dressed up and looking happy, as these are the little things I miss.

Our topic this term is all about Living and Non-Living things, food chains, habitats and growth. We have already found out about some Living and Non-Livings and explored a little bit about senses too. If the children have any ideas for things that they would like to include, or find out about, in our topic then please let me know.

In addition to the daily tasks there are also the activities that were listed on our school closure newsletter, which can be found on our class page. There you will also find links to Lego challenges, Boggle cards and some life skills for P1 & P2. All children also have access to Sumdog, Education City and Epic, where they can continue to develop literacy and math skills and read or listen to stories too. I know that the children understand that things are a little bit different at the moment and they might have some questions about the words they are hearing in relation to the situation too. Therefore, I have also uploaded a copy of a book, published by Nosy Crow, for children about the Coronavirus, which has been illustrated by Axel Scheffler (the same person who illustrated the Gruffalo and lots of other familiar stories).

Children were also sent home with a learning pack that included some helpful resources and information to support their learning at home. Homework diaries also have some helpful resources in them which you may find useful. The P1 diary includes a 0-10 number line and learning targets for maths and literacy. In the P2 diary you will find a number line, a hundred square, tricky word spelling lists and learning targets for maths and literacy too.

Mrs Gill has also been very busy updating our school website. In the parent’s tab you will find home learning links, which includes links to all school closure letters and any additional ideas, activities or information that has been e-mailed to you over the last few weeks.

Once again, thank you so much for your help and support during this time, it is greatly appreciated, as is the vital contribution that you are all playing in supporting your child’s learning at home too, whether that be engaging with the learning activities or taking advantage of the time together and enjoying a walk, exploring your local area, playing games, baking or sharing stories together. Everything you do will be helping them develop knowledge and skills. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if I can help or support in any way.

I hope you all continue to keep safe and healthy. Take care.

Janelle McDonald