

Spring Term 2021 – preparing for remote home learning

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year everyone. I hope you all enjoyed some form of celebration at home or an early night to bed!

We have now received official communications from Hertfordshire County Council about the forthcoming school closures. Maple Cross will remain closed to all pupils except vulnerable pupils and the children of key workers until at least Friday 15th January. There is no official date to confirm when we will know what is happening from Monday 18th January.

Parents of vulnerable children will be contacted directly and parents who are key workers are required to book days in advance. These places must be booked via the link below at least 48 hours prior to the dates requested. You will receive an email confirming a place.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1SGoYqSZNI4puGKj7pb1xzryQmmsrxLwXu0Jg6U7ob6o>

The decision to provide 'childcare' for children of key worker remains with the headteacher. Places will be limited to ensure the limited number of school staff are not put at risk. All class teachers will be working at home to provide virtual learning. Support staff will be overseeing key worker children who will be completing the same learning as those at home. Children in school will effectively be offered childcare places not lessons.

EYFS – Nursery and Reception

A bespoke play based learning curriculum will be shared on Monday. This includes daily video check ins with class teachers, story reading and live lessons.

Key Stage 1 and 2

- All children are expected to use Google Classroom (Key Stage 1 and 2) to support a full days learning. Learning will be timetabled throughout the school day, i.e. 8.30 – 3.00pm).
- 4 videos and follow up learning will be released via Google Classroom throughout the day as well as continuous responses to questions on the Google Classroom chat.
- All children will have a live, daily video check in with their peers and class teacher. This includes a daily register
- All children will attend a daily, whole school, live video assembly with Mrs T.

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Safeguarding and on-line safety

The safety of all pupils and staff remains the number one priority. The following expectations remain in place for all pupils throughout the period of remote learning.

- All children will be dressed for live video sessions – no pyjamas or undressed bodies.
- No siblings will join class sessions – only those children in that class will join live sessions.
- All children will learn in an appropriate space, ideally sat at a table/desk and have an adult nearby.
- All children will follow the expectations of the class teacher – i.e. not call out, disrupt learning or use chat bars inappropriately.
- No live sessions are to be filmed or photographed by children or adults at home.

If any child does not follow the expectations, they will be ejected from live video streams and/or Google Classroom chats. In the event of this happening parents will be contacted to inform them of the school's decisions. While we understand this sounds heavy handed these rules are in place to ensure all children and staff are safe and the focus on learning remains.

Exact timings of video releases and details of log in details for live check-ins and assemblies will be shared on Monday.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing all children remotely on Wednesday 6th January.

Hannah Trickett
Head Teacher