'Learning together, loving others, guided by God'

Heene Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Weekly Update - Tuesday 19th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We are very conscious that since the beginning of term you have received a fairly constant stream of messages from us, some of which have been fairly long and complex. As we continue through lockdown we will try to reduce the number of communications and will issue a weekly update every Tuesday with the main points to bring to your attention.

It would be lovely if we could guarantee that this would be the only message you receive from us but we all know that there will be information that cannot wait until the following Tuesday to be sent or that only applies to a small or specific group of children. These will still need to be sent to you but we will try to keep these as few and as short as we can.

We do very much value any feedback you may have about our communications. In normal times this could easily be done at drop off and pick up times but please do email the Office if you have any comments to make.

Google classroom/Google meet

THANK YOU for all you are doing to support your children with home learning and thank you to those parents who have given feedback to us as a school. We know that there are still some issues with the accessibility of google classrooms and please be assured that we are working hard to sort these out in order to make the resources that we are providing better for all involved. We do appreciate the frustration this may be causing in your homes.

Yesterday, further training was given to our teaching staff and today our computing subject lead has been working on support materials for parents which focus on how to use and edit the different google documents. These will be emailed out to you later today. From next week, we will be offering zoom google clinics with Mrs Scott in which she can address individual issues families may be experiencing. A booking in system will be communicated to you in due course.

Please do remember that reading, practising of times tables on TT Rockstars, Jo Wicks PE etc all counts as learning.

We have decided to timetable a regular, weekly slot for each class to meet with their teacher on google meet. This should hopefully avoid any cross over if you have children in different year groups. It is really important that your child joins this session as regularly as they can, a register will be taken at the start of every session. This timetable is below:

We know that many of you would like weekly phone calls with your class teachers. Given the demand currently being placed on teachers' time we are not currently in a position to facilitate this. However, the google meet sessions are intended to provide that face to face contact with school and provide children with the opportunity to ask any questions that they may have. If you do need to speak with your child's class teacher for any reason then please do email them on the class email address and they will be able to agree a suitable time to contact you.

Laptops

Thank you to those of you that have returned the online technology survey. We are currently awaiting the arrival of a number of chrome books from the Department for Education which we will be able to loan to the families who have indicated on the survey that their children are struggling to access online learning. We will be in touch as soon as the equipment arrives. It is so important that you let us know if you are finding it difficult to access the learning with the device that you currently have or if you are having to share one device between many people. Please can I ask that you email the office office@heeneprimary.co.uk if this is the case for your family.

















Lateral Flow Testing

As you may have heard on the news last week, primary schools will be receiving home testing kits for all their staff. This testing should start for staff during the week commencing 25.1.21 and staff will test themselves twice a week. These tests are a vital tool to finding asymptomatic cases and ultimately, reducing transmission within our community.

FSM vouchers

All of you with children registered for free school meals (FSM) will hopefully be aware that we are now able to issue you with a voucher if your child is not attending school. The voucher will be emailed to you so please keep an eye out for an email from Edenred. Quite a few of the parcels issued last week were not collected, so all of the left-over food has been donated to Worthing Homes Community House.

If you think you may be eligible for FSM please check the information on our website in the **Information for Parents** section which includes details of how to apply.

Websites

Below are a selection of different websites, to support different areas of learning. We would love to hear how you get on with anything that you try so please email your class email address with something new that you have learnt!



BBC Bitesize curriculum lessons - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize



https://classroom.thenational.academy/

Nearly 10,000 free video lessons, resources and activities, covering most subjects, from Reception to Year 11



https://code.org/

Learn computer science at home!



https://pstt.org.uk/resources/curriculum-materials/Science-Fun-at-Home Science experiments to do at home using everyday household items!



https://scratch.mit.edu/

Create your own interactive stories, games and animations.

Bee Fit songs, dances and games https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzqXq1XLc4byJqw32jo7mbQ/featured

Animated videos on topics in maths, English and science https://www.brainpop.com/

Coding for children - https://www.tynker.com/

Creative lessons - https://www.creativebug.com/

Please do feel free to contact any one of us by phone or by email.

With thanks,

The Senior Leadership Team