



Winwick CE Primary School
Myddleton Lane, Winwick
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Monday 20th April 2020

HOME LEARNING UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to give a warm 'welcome back' to all our children and families after the Easter break. While we are now returning to learning, for the majority of us, we are unfortunately not returning to school at the moment. We hope you have all had the opportunity to spend some time together as a family over the past couple of weeks and that the children have been able to have step away from their home learning and enjoy the sunshine that has been a blessing during this time.

Today, as we mark the beginning of the new term, we will be turning on new learning on our class pages (you can find this on your child's class page under the 'School Closure Information & Learning' tab). In addition to the class pages, there are lots of other pages with a range of different activities which children might want to have a go at too; these can be found in the 'Resources for All' section. From this week, Mrs Dymond will also be sharing a weekly whole school worship which will be shared in this section of the website too; we hope you can join us for the first one this afternoon at 2.45pm.

In addition to this, we have also added a page with SEND resources, which includes a range of different resources to support our children. Although your child may not have a special educational need, you may still want to have a look at the different resources that are available here as you may find some of them useful.

To support home learning, from this week, the BBC have this week launched a range of lessons to help educate the children while they are at home. On each class page, you will find a timetable with the different activities that are available each day for each year group. You may want to have a look through these with your child and select some that they might like to complete.

As we said before the Easter holidays, we understand that these are challenging times and we know that a lot of our parents are working from home or have other challenges, which means that trying to support your child's learning (and for some of you, more than one child's learning) isn't an easy task. There is no expectation of parents to take on the role of our teachers and teaching assistants during this time. We have provided you with a range of resources for children to access to support their learning, along with links to useful websites and online tools (e.g. Purple Mash, SumDog, TTRockstars, Evidence Me), but we DO NOT expect that children will complete all of these activities; nor do we expect that children will complete every activity that has been shared with class teachers on their class pages. Instead, we want to provide you with a wide selection of different activities and resources so that you have enough range and that there will be enough choice to cater for all children's needs. Please DO NOT put pressure on yourselves to try and replicate what we do in the classrooms, as we know that this is an impossible task.

In God's love, aspire and achieve to be the best'





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As a school, what is most important for us, is that our children are safe and happy during this time so that we are all able to return once it is safe to do so. To help you do this, we recommend that you keep the children in some form of daily routine;

- getting up at their usual times and getting dressed and ready for the day, like they would normally do
- having meals at their usual times, with snack breaks during the day
- going to bed at their usual time, with the same bedtime routines

In terms of learning time, we understand that all families, and children, are different and so recommend that you find a system that works best for your family. Depending on the age of your child, we advise no more than 3 hours of learning per day. Older children should be encouraged to work more independently, wherever possible.

Before school closed, we gave all our children an exercise book and some other activities that they could complete at home. When accessing the resources that teachers have set, we know that lots of you do not have printers at home; so lots of the worksheets can be used to look at the questions and tasks and then the answers/questions can be recorded into the children's exercise book. We are also putting activities on that children can complete without needing to use technology for too.

If children are struggling with a task, reassure them that they do not need to worry. Once we are back in school, we will make sure that they are supported with the things that they are unsure of, so while at home, children should have their best try and then move onto something else instead. You could always direct your child to activities on other class pages which might be easier for them to work through.

If you haven't already done so, please have a look at Purple Mash; it contains a range of different activities and games for children to complete across the curriculum. Children can also save their work into folders and this can be seen by the teachers in school. Teachers can also use this tools to set '2Dos' which are activities the teacher has specifically chosen for the children to complete and has signposted them to; some of these can then be submitted and the teacher can make a comment back to the children too.

Last week, we sent out a survey via School PING to ask about access to home learning and IT. If you have not already done so, it would be really useful for us if you would complete to survey – thank you. Thank you for those families who have complete the survey already, this has helped to give school an idea of how our home learning is being accessed. We know a number of people have added comments of thanks and support – these were lovely to read and we appreciate the kind words. A number of people have given us some useful feedback – some answers have hopefully been covered with this letter too. If you are struggling to access home learning due to lack of internet access or only have limited access to online learning because you only have a mobile phone, please email the school on winwick_primary@warrington.gov.uk, or leave an answer phone message by calling the school office so that we can support you with this.

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Lots of you have already joined the PTFA Facebook page, which is doing a great job of sharing ideas and resources that can be used at home. There was a parent comment on the IT survey which asked about the resources that were being posted on the PTFA page; to clarify, these are additional activities to those that are provided on the school website. As a school we work with the PTFA to manage the PTFA Facebook page to ensure that there is consistency in the information you are receiving about school, but it is also a place where useful ideas are shared by the wider school community. Key learning can be found on class pages, but you are welcome to complete a range of different activities with your children if you feel this would be beneficial during this time, including those on the PTFA page.

We also would like to remind all our children and families that, although we can't be together in person, school are still here if you need us for help and support. The best (and quickest) way to get in contact with us is to email us at winwick_primary@warrington.gov.uk and you can also leave us an answer phone message by calling the school office; although please note that our office is not currently manned so messages are not checked as regularly as they would be during a normal working day.

You can also find a range of resources and links on our school website that signpost you to a wide spectrum of different help and support that is available to families at this time; in particular, there lots of things to support mental health and well-being which you might find helpful.

Finally, we want to say a huge thank you to you all. To our key worker parents/family members, and especially those working for the NHS and as carers, we thank you for all that you are doing each and every day. These are challenging times and it has been lovely to see how we are all pulling together as a school community to support each other. We know children/families have been in contact with each other to offer support and friendship; Canon June has, and continues to, provide us with beautiful services from her home via St Oswald's FaceBook page; there are rainbows/teddies in the windows of houses to spread Hope to others; to each of our families staying at home who are working so hard to keep the children safe and entertained during this time with lovely activities; to our school staff, who have, and continue to, work so hard to ensure our children have continued support ; there are so many more heart-warming things that are happening; a huge thank you to you all ☺

At the beginning of the new Summer term, our new value of Perseverance seems quite appropriate in these difficult times. We will keep going and Persevere through the challenges and the difficult times as we know that, once this is over, we will be back together once more.

Thank you for your continued support, with the warmest of wishes,

The Whole of the Winwick Team.

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