

Winwick CE Primary School

Myddleton Lane, Winwick Warrington, WA2 8LQ email: winwick_primary@warrington.gov.uk Telephone: (01925) 630995

Monday 18th May 2020

HOME LEARNING UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week marks the final week of the first half of the summer term. We would like to say a huge WELL DONE to all our pupils, parents, families and staff for the hard work that has taken place over this half term to keep our children learning. We know that these are challenging times, but it has been wonderful to see our Winwick family and the wider community pulling together to support and encourage each other. Over this half term, we have loved seeing all the photographs and videos that have been sent into school to the teachers showing all the wonderful things that you have been doing at home. We have added some of these onto our Keeping in Touch section of the website.

As we would normally be finishing for the two week half-term break on Friday, we will not be putting any new learning on class pages for what would be the half term weeks. However, if you still wish to keep your child in a routine, you will find lots of other activities/links in the Resources for All section of the website, as well as using any resources from previous weeks on your child's class page too. In addition to this, your child can access SumDog (Maths & Spelling), TTRockstars, Purple Mash, Reading Plus (Y2-Y6) and Evidence Me (Reception parents only).

Over the Whit holidays, staff will continue to be on a rota system to ensure that we are able to remain open for our key worker children. Because of this, over the next 3 weeks, staff will be taking their holiday entitlement on a rota system which means that photographs you send in may not appear on the website straight away and staff may not be able to respond/make calls home during their break. However, as emails are sent to the main school office, should there be an important need for a response sooner, this will be done by another member of staff if it is urgent.

As mentioned in Friday's newsletter, there have been lots of guidance and briefings over the past week linked to Education and the proposed phased return for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. School Leaders have been working with the Government guidance and the Local Authority to begin planning how this phased return might look for us at Winwick; we are still in the early days of this, and guidance is changing daily. The safety and welfare of your child(ren), as well as our duty to protect our staff, is of paramount importance and we can only open once we are reassured that this can be achieved. As soon as we are able to, we will share our planning information with you, which mean sharing information during the Whit holiday period, so please keep an eye on information being sent to you via School PING, thank you.

All new learning for this week is now live on class pages ready for the week ahead. If there are resources that cannot be added to the class pages, these have been sent out through School PING. In addition to this, we also have a number of other updates linked to our home learning, these include;

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POETRY WEEK

This week is Poetry Week and so all classes will have been set some tasks that link to poetry. In addition to this, we have set up a resources page in the 'Special Events' section which provides further videos and resources. Mrs Duckett has also set the children a poetry challenge – see the website for more details.

TTROCKSTARS COMPETITION

On Wednesday 20th May, our Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 children have been challenged to a TTRockstars competition against the children at Culcheth Community Primary School. The competition will run for 9am until 6pm on Wednesday. Please arrange for your child to have some time on TTRockstars maths during the day so that we can try and win the competition. Can we be the winning school/class/individual? We will update you once the competition has finished. GOOD LUCK WINWICK!

OXFORD OWL WEBSITE

If you have not yet seen the website link on the reading page to the Oxford Owl website, we recommend that you have a look, especially if you have children in Key Stage 1. This website provides you with a range of different resources, including book banded reading books for the children to read. You can sign up for free.

READING PLUS (Y2-Y6)

A couple of weeks ago, parents of children in Years 2 to 6 were sent their child's individual log in details for Reading Plus. If you have not yet done so, please ensure you get this information so that your child is able to access this resource. On logging in, all children will be given the same initial assessment to complete – this can take up to 50 minutes and can be broken down into small chunks – if your child needs a break, the assessment should save where they are up to and they can come back to it. We appreciate that for some Year 2 children/children with additional needs linked to reading, this initial assessment is going to be quite challenging, but for the majority of children in all other year groups they should be able to attempt this task. Reading Plus will then use this information to set your child to work independently; if they are supported, Reading Plus will get an inaccurate picture of your child's current reading skill level and will then not provide appropriate tasks for them. So far, the feedback from the majority of children who have been using it regularly over the past couple of weeks has been really positive and we know that Reading Plus really improves children's reading skill and progress, so if your child has not yet started this, please encourage them to complete their initial assessment task this week.

NATIONAL OAK ACADEMY/BBC BITESIZE LEARNING

In addition to the learning on our website, the Government have also produced a range of lessons and activities to support with home learning too. You/your child may find some of the resources on here useful to support home learning too. Each week there are new lessons and activities.

We hope you have a wonderful final week of this half term. Thank you for your continued support.

The Winwick Team

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Key Reminders

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.

As a school, what is <u>most important</u> 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.

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 <u>winwick_primary@warrington.gov.uk</u>, or leave an answer phone message by calling the school office so that we can support you with this.

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 <u>winwick_primary@warrington.gov.uk</u> 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.

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