



Holy Name

Catholic Primary School

"With Jesus as our guide; we love, live and learn together."

Home Learning Weekly Parent Update No. 3 - 29.01.21

Dear Parent

I am sure that you will have heard the latest government announcement stating that schools will be closed at until the 8th March at the earliest. I know this will be extremely disappointing for many of you, as it is for our staff in school; however, we will get through this lockdown! The most important thing to us is that you and your family are safe and well.

We are continuing to set remote learning and of course we want the children to complete their set tasks, but we also recognise that this may be putting extra pressure on your family. Therefore, we are asking you to do what you are able to. If you are experiencing any difficulties and require support, then please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance so that we can see how we may assist you. This may just be for a chat but it may also mean that we can offer advice / put something in place to help to ease any pressure you may be experiencing.

Parent Survey:

Thank you to all of our parents who have already completed the home learning survey – it has been overwhelmingly positive and we are really grateful that you took the time to complete it.

If you would like to share your valuable feedback with us, please complete this short form by **Monday 1st February**: [click here](#).

Live Teaching Update:

Upon analysing the responses so far, some parents have asked us to consider providing live teaching as part of our remote learning offer.

There is already work taking place 'behind the scenes' to achieve this. Our aim is to provide one live session everyday as soon as possible. Live lessons will also be recorded so that any pupils who are unable to attend 'live' can catch up later.

To begin with, we are going to launch it for **Year Three and Year Four**. This will be a trial and therefore we would welcome your feedback via the year group email accounts, before launching live learning with more classes.

A letter has been sent to our families in Y3 and Y4 with further information. As these lessons are being recorded, we require consent in order for your child to participate. Please complete this [FORM](#). We are really looking forward to trialling this next week – it would be great to see as many faces as possible!

Assembly Time Changes:

We hope you enjoyed the live class assemblies which have taken place this week. It was so wonderful to see so many children. We are going to do every week now.

All assemblies will now take place on a **Friday**. Please note your child's new assembly time:

Friday Assembly Time	Year Group
09.00 – 09.30am	Y1, Y5
09.00 – 10.00am	Y4
10.00 – 10.30am	Y6
10.45 – 11.15am	Y2
10.45 – 11.45am	Y3

We know that some pupils may have difficulty to access their assembly if they have a sibling in another class. We have done our best to accommodate the classes where there are the majority of siblings, but this is not possible for everyone. Therefore, please take it in turns for your child to participate if they are sharing a device.

If you require a second device, then please email technical.support@holyname.sandwell.sch.uk to make us aware of this and we will endeavour to try to help.

Feedback Apology:

Our teachers have been working really hard to set quizzes for the children which they had prepopulated with responses and support if any pupil responses were incorrect. Unfortunately, we only discovered this week that our pupils were not receiving their feedback for these tasks due to a setting on the form. **We would like to apologise for this as it was not our intention!** We hope that the children will now be able to see their feedback from their class teacher. I promise that we are learning very quickly about Microsoft Teams and we will all be experts in no time at all!

Mental Health Week:

Next week is '**Mental Health**' week. Every class will be doing some work for this next week.

There are some great tips here on how you can support your child with talking about their feelings:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/parents-and-carers/>

There is a live assembly taking place from the Oak National Academy on Monday at 9:00am if you would like your child to join:

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/assemblies/childrens-mental-health-week-2021>

As well as thinking about the children's mental health, please also think of your own. Take some time for yourself as you juggle work, home schooling and your own household. If you would like any support, please do not hesitate to contact school or have a look at some of the links below:

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-for-everyday-living/>

<https://www.thecalmzone.net/>

Finally, I would like to highly recommend a book called 'The Boy, The Fox, The Mole and The Horse' by Charlie Mackesy which is suitable for all ages. It is a truly heart-warming story which shares some important messages which I think we need to hear now more than ever! If you haven't read the story before, you can listen to it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=81b4i9jQhck>. It is just 12 minutes long and definitely worth a watch / listen when you have some time!

I hope that you are all continuing to stay safe and well.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Chapman'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, circular initial 'E' and a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Mrs E. Chapman
Deputy Headteacher