

Deal Parochial Church of England (Aided) Primary School

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Dear Families

I hope you are all keeping safe and well during this time of challenge and terrible weather!

We are now settling into the new lockdown measures and finding our feet with the expectations and new ways of working.

I am expecting a delivery from the government of rapid flow COVID tests to arrive at school within the next couple of weeks. This is so that staff can register and have quick access to a COVID test. I hope that this will enable us to feel safer and respond more quickly limiting any spread of the virus.

Other measures in place

We are pleased to be offering weekly food parcels to families as an alternative option to a daily hot dinner being cooked here at the school.

We will be ordering vouchers for the school holidays as before. If you think you are eligible to receive these and have not done so, please contact the school office staff and let us know. Mrs Porteous has checked against our school information and tries her hardest to ensure that any problems in using the vouchers are solved.

Teachers are now planning a parallel curriculum so that all families have access to Remote Education or classroom learning in school.

If you are struggling with the internet please let us know as we may be able to find some help. Additionally, teachers are now offering a daily meet the teacher and peers catch up. We have timetabled this across the school day so that siblings are not all trying to use a device at the same time. I know that this doesn't solve all the issues so please continue to let us know if your family are finding difficulties in accessing our remote education provision. By using many of the superb pre-recorded teaching videos from Oak Academy teachers can plan a sequence of learning that is the same for home and school learners. Teachers are marking and providing feedback through either Micro-Soft TEAMS, Purple Mash and Do Jo. We can monitor how many learning tasks children are carrying out each day and set improvement points and feedback for pupils. Please encourage your children to take part and keep up and join in. It is by no means perfect, but we have improved this provision and are committed to continue to improve. Your feedback and support is really helpful towards us getting this right for you.

In a Resources Team governing body meeting last week, Mr Alltoft and Mr Comley both expressed their pride and thanks to all our families. As parent governors, who both need to send children to school as key workers, they have witnessed first-hand how supportive and respectful all our school community are in complying with the COVID social distancing rules and new ways of school life. They asked me to formally acknowledge this and express their gratitude to every family. I would also like to add all the school staff's thanks to you also.



LETS HAVE A HAPPY,HAPPY,HAPPY DAY ODD SOCKS, CRAZY CLOTHES AND COLOUR DAY. THURSDAY 21ST JANUARY

In the bleakness of last Friday's grotty, gloomy weather we thought that we should try to brighten up the week ahead and try to take some of the pressure off our Remote Learners from time to time. We know it is hard work parents.... Hats off to you all!!

We plan to suspend the usual curriculum on Thursday 21st Jan and replace it with a Happy, happy, happy day full of colour, fun and good vibes.

We invite everyone to wear odd socks and go crazy in wearing colourful misfit clothes at home and at school – WHY NOT FOLKS?

Teachers will plan a list of optional arty, fun activities that families can choose from so that it is accessible and as inclusive as possible!

It can range from painting a pebble, creating a sock puppet and telling a joke, to writing a HAPPY poem, joining in some of our more lively songs on line and reading stories and poems that are humorous.

We will try to plan a few days like these across the term in order to beat away the boredom and keep us all sane!

Look out on TEAMS and Purple Mash for your Thursday offer for saying KERPOW, bish-bash-bosh to the January blues and COVID frustrations!!

Please remember to keep in touch and let us know the good, the bad and the ugly. We want to make this as painless as possible for everyone.

Kind regards
Justine Brown.
Head Teacher

**Lord God,
thank you for making us,
for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us.
We know you are here with us right now.**

**As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to
what you have to say to us.**

Amen

