



Warren Park Primary School

Sandleford Road, Havant, Hampshire PO9 4LR

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Fax (023) 9249 8399

Headteacher: Mrs Elizabeth Cooper

School Business Manager: Mrs Anna Evans



Thursday 14th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We do hope that you are all well and keeping safe in what has proved to be a very challenging beginning to the Spring term. We now know that the government intends to keep schools open only for the children of critical workers and those who are vulnerable until the half term break. It is with great sadness that we find ourselves back in this position, but we do have the light at the end of tunnel with the vaccine which will hopefully mean that this is the last time that we will experience this.

The expectations for home learning are quite different this time. Our fantastic staff team are all continuing to work incredibly hard as each year has a teaching group in school as well as providing home learning through the google classroom platform. We appreciate that this is a steep learning curve for us all, both at home and in school. The staff are trying out lots of different strategies, including videos of themselves teaching and instructions for tasks with voiceovers to help the children understand. It also means that teachers can communicate directly with the children and give them feedback about the work that they have 'turned in'. We know that there are lots of pressures in terms of having the right technology to access this learning and we will continue to do our best to help everyone gain access for at least part of the day.

The government's expectation is that children in the infants will be engaged in learning for at least 3 hours a day and the juniors for at least 4 hours. Our staff will be providing the lessons and instructions for this learning each day through the google platform for Years 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and Tapestry for Year R and 1. There is no doubt that we have been working through some teething problems with this but we are absolutely delighted that so many children have been able to access learning each day and the number just continues to grow – thank you!

We also appreciate that this current time is presenting significant challenges for many families and although we are keen to support children's learning we also understand that personal circumstances may make learning difficult or even impossible for periods of time. We ask that you stay in touch with us and let your child's year group know if they are unwell or not able to access the school platform for any reason. Although we are unable to see you in the same way as before, we are all still here to help so please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Tapestry for Year R and 1 has been extremely temperamental over the last couple of weeks and has struggled to cope with the surge in use nationally. We hope that this has been resolved and now we will be able to use this platform more consistently. Although we have issued paper packs in the short term to get over this bump, we hope that Tapestry will now be the main source of sharing teaching and learning.



www.warrenpark.hants.sch.uk



Listen, Think, Learn and Enjoy!





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Although technology can be frustrating at times, we know that the quality of children's learning can be much higher when they are able to access the platform and benefit from the tasks set directly by the teacher. If you are having problems, please do let us know and we really do appreciate your persistence and patience while we try and support.

Each year group has an email address for you to send information and enquiries:

yearr@warrenpark.hants.sch.uk

year1@warrenpark.hants.sch.uk

year2@warrenpark.hants.sch.uk

year3@warrenpark.hants.sch.uk

year4@warrenpark.hants.sch.uk

year5@warrenpark.hants.sch.uk

year6@warrenpark.hants.sch.uk

One of the benefits of the platform is that teachers can give feedback about a child's learning and communicate directly with them if they are stuck or struggling. Lots of the staff have been sharing some of the amazing work that has come in which we love to see. Please do just remember that the staff are also teaching children in school so they will feedback on key pieces of work but won't necessarily be able to comment on everything.

School staff will not be in a position to make regular phone calls home as it is hoped that contact through the learning platform will replace the need for this. They will however, continue to follow up if they haven't seen a child engage to see how we can help.

Over the last few months I have said in many letters that we look forward to the day when we can welcome you all back into school but it does feel like, if we can all work together and continue to follow the guidance, then perhaps that time is just over the horizon. The Warren Park community is so strong and, even if we can't meet as we would like, I know that we will continue to support each other through the next challenging months – please remember we are here and get in touch if you need us!

Stay safe and well, with our very best wishes,

Elizabeth Cooper



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