



St Philip Westbrook

C of E Aided Primary School

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Mrs J Wightman
Headteacher

Reception Newsletter 8th January 2020

We hope all of our families had a lovely, restful Christmas. Thank you so much for all of your kind Christmas cards, gifts and messages.

We were extremely disappointed that we were unable to welcome our Reception children back to school on Tuesday. We were so looking forward to hearing about their Christmas antics and to introducing our brand new project through our exciting role play and story making areas, which we have spent a long time preparing!

Thank you for your support during what has been a very busy and difficult week. We are still learning how to teach in this new remote way and we really appreciate your patience and understanding. It has been lovely to see so many smiling faces looking back at us from home, as well as in the classroom. Please continue to join the live streams when possible. It is also important that children are continuing to access learning tasks when at home and are sharing their work with the teachers using their Purple Mash accounts. During break times and lunch times the children in school are always active. We are encouraging the children at home to also participate in physical exercise during these times. This could include a run around the garden or going for a walk.

Although we are working hard to ensure there are plenty of learning opportunities for children to explore whilst they are at home, please be reassured that there is no requirement for children to participate in every live session, nor each set task. Similarly, follow up tasks and additional activities do not need to be completed within the timetabled slots. Evenings and weekends can be used to catch up on anything that you particularly want the children to do. We understand that too much screen time is not good for our children. We also appreciate that many of you will be trying to work from home yourselves, or support older or younger siblings.

We have experienced some technical issues in school this week due to the increased amount of time we are all needing to spend online. Similarly, we understand that a number of families have been experiencing similar difficulties. Please ensure that any problems are reported to the school office, rather than as an announcement or a comment during our live lessons. Teachers are unable to respond to these issues whilst they are streaming. If you are experiencing a problem that is preventing you from joining the live stream then please don't worry. There are a number of additional activities that the children can participate in on our 'School Work for Remote Learning' tab on the website. Similarly, children can always access the Reading Eggs app or explore activities on Purple Mash, or even continue with their physical exercise.

Once again, thank you for your patience. Despite the problems we have been faced with this week, our children have been wonderful and they have, yet again, made us extremely proud.

The Reception Team