

# St Peter's C of E (Aided) Primary School

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# St Peter's Home Learning Offer 2021

This document is designed to help ensure that 'Home Learning' is as smooth as possible and enables your child to progress.

Different households, age groups and children have varying needs and no 'Home Learning' platform will be perfect. Teachers have drawn up the following principles to ensure as much consistency as possible between classes, and to make improvements based on experience and feedback.

# **How Seesaw Will Operate**

- Work for the day ahead will be scheduled to come on Seesaw at 8am.
- By Monday morning, all work from the previous week will be archived.
  This is so that parents and pupils are not overwhelmed with a whole load of activities building up.
- Teachers will comment on work, where appropriate, to ensure the child feels their effort is recognised.
- Teachers will give helpful feedback where it adds value to the task and helps the child learn – i.e. we will make suggestions for corrections or improvements where appropriate and possible.
- Teachers will not video themselves to go out as 'Live Lessons'. This is in line with all the other Horsham (HSP) schools and follows the national pattern for primary schools. Academic research in Lockdown 1 found live lessons no more effective than other online provision.
  - We are now trialling a few Zoom meetings per week for classes in Key Stage 2.
  - These are for pupils to gain support should they require it.
  - It has been a school decision not to do this for Key Stage 1 and Reception because we feel this would not be appropriate for younger children. KS1 Teachers will post keeping in touch messages.
  - This Zoom meeting idea will be reviewed to see if it is adding value.
  - We request that a parent is somewhere in the same room, while the Zoom takes place, to ensure safeguarding and that their child is focussed.

### Messaging

- If you are finding anything a problem please message your teacher through the Seesaw Family App. If that is not possible for you, please email the school office on the address in the header of this letter.
- For everyone's well-being, teachers are not expected to reply to messages outside of school hours (9am to 5pm) or over weekends.

#### Contact

• Parents can request a phone call, or Zoom, from the teacher (via the Seesaw Family App) to feedback about how they are finding the work. Or, if the parent feels like the child would benefit from a chat with their teacher for their general well-being, please request a call or Zoom meeting.

Parents should accompany their child for these calls, for safeguarding purposes.

### **Pupils with Critical Worker Parents**

- Provision at school, for pupils with Critical Worker parents, will be based (as closely as practically possible) on the work that the teachers have posted on Seesaw.
- When these pupils get home, they are not expected to do any of the work on Seesaw.

### **Keep Key Skills Ticking Over**

• Learning the week's spellings, times tables / number bonds and hearing children read are the only expectations beyond the work on Seesaw. The letter about how to access Accelerated Reader Quizzes went out earlier this week.

We have now found a website called EPIC – <a href="https://www.getepic.com/">https://www.getepic.com/</a> which has a 30 day free trial for digital books.

For younger pupils, Oxford Owl is still free: https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/

Please don't put too much stress on yourself, or your child, at this difficult time. If you ever get into difficulty with Seesaw, or home tasks, remember that ultimately your family's well-being is paramount in our minds. We don't mind if you have to adapt and do something else.

We recommend that you give priority to the maths and English tasks.

For your own well-being, don't forget that you can turn-off NOTIFICATIONS in your Seesaw account settings. There's a danger that these platforms can dominate our lives. If it all gets too much – do go for a walk or have a cuppa!

Thank you for your support with 'Home Learning'.

Giles Kolter (Headteacher)

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