



Headteacher's update: Friday 8th January 2021

I am sure this update finds you in a slight state of shock, bemusement, disbelief, frustration, sadness or confusion. These emotions and reactions are normal. Allow yourself to be upset, and then find a way of coming out of it as best you can (music, fresh air, a good film, exercise, a good book, video call a friend... something small that makes you happy will help enormously)

Lockdown 3.0? Come on, we can do this...

Contact us, we're here for you!

The school office is staffed everyday 8:30-3:30 (but please do not turn up unannounced, make an appointment and ensure you have a mask.)



01929 552949



office@sandfordprimary.dorset.sch.uk



The school mobile is also active to receive texts/emergencies

07395 902324



Direct messaging service (Class teachers and Mr Beveridge)

Your child's teacher/s is available in working hours, the first port of call is a message on Class Dojo. If this is difficult please contact the office who will pass on your query by email. Mr Beveridge, Mrs Pampin, Mr Dean and Miss Colley are still working on site for the majority of the week and can support you in the usual ways. We are here for you!

HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP HELP

How can we help you further? *We can't promise this, but we can try...*

- The government can offer extra mobile phone data for anyone struggling without devices and without wifi. If this is you, please get in touch.
- The government can offer *some* wireless wifi routers in exceptional circumstances with 20GB per month preloaded on a card until July 2021. If you have no fixed broadband, but have the devices, please get in touch.
- We are waiting to hear about 'devices' for home learning. Last lockdown we loaned about 30 iPads to children at home. We do have iPads available for loan, so please phone, Dojo or email to let us know if this would make a difference. You would need to collect it and sign a usage/safety agreement.



How else can we help you further? *We CAN do this, right now!*

We are very happy to provide 'paper based work packs' for any child/parent who is struggling to access/print class work. Please let the teacher or school office know and these will be made available weekly for you to collect from us.

We are also very happy to provide blank exercise books for anyone who is struggling with paper. We have a stock of lined and/or squared books for home use. Please pop by the office to collect (no appointment necessary).

Key workers/vulnerable children provision

The school day has reverted to 8:35(8:45 start)-3:05

We've had over 50 children accessing this provision in the first 4 days, but the register has 110 eligible names registered. *This is a third of the school!*

There are currently 3 'bubbles' which are supported daily by a Teacher and TAs in each.

Saplings/Y1/Y2 are learning together, as are Y3/Y4 and then Y5/Y6 are joined too.

Teachers are working from home, on average, 80% of their contract and on site 20%

TAs/office staff are working from home, on average, 60% of their contact and on site 40%

Senior leaders are working towards 50% home and 50% on site, sharing 'building based' duties

Free School Meals Vouchers (for eligible families)

These are set up and ready to go, in fortnightly blocks. The first 'fortnight' is 9 days from Tuesday 6th Jan-Friday 15th Jan. If your child has been invited into school, you won't receive vouchers until we know for sure if they attending or not. The daily rate for FSM is £2.70 as this is what the school receives for eligible children. The first voucher amount will be £25. From then on it will be £27 per fortnight during school closure.

Safety first – Tier 5 including school closures

To protect staff, children, parents and governors we are all working from home if we can.

The exception is where we are providing face-to-face education to vulnerable children or children of key workers. We must keep these numbers to a minimum otherwise school will be open not closed. More on that below (DfE 08/01/21):

“Primary schools will remain open to vulnerable children and the children of [critical workers](#) only. All other pupils should not attend and should learn remotely until February half-term. Pupils who are self-isolating should not attend school. Clinically extremely vulnerable pupils are also advised not to attend school.”



If you or someone in your household has COVID-19 symptoms, we encourage you to book a **COVID test**. Lockdown does not mean ‘safe’ (it means ‘safer’) and to protect those you live with and to break trains of transmission, getting a test is still vital.

We’re running an “if in doubt, keep them out” (‘of school’ mantra; for obvious reasons at this tentative time.) If your child is due to attend school and has symptoms (or someone in the household does) **DO NOT SEND** them in. In children this *may* include diarrhoea, headaches, sensitivity to light, pains or aches in limbs, persistent cough, high temperature (hot to touch, might not show on a thermometer), change in taste or smell.

To further protect us all, staff who are working in school will be offered a weekly test. This is to identify ‘asymptomatic’ carriers of COVID-19. Thanks to Lytchett Minister school for providing this service to 4 primary schools locally – we might be the first area nationally to be testing primary school staff as early as next week!

Remote learning/school work at home

Class Dojo is currently our main means of setting, explaining and collecting/feeding back on work. From today teachers will upload a ‘weekly overview’ and 5 folders, one for each day of the week. Each folder will contain a ‘daily overview’ so you can see how the lessons are designed to flow. This overview will also detail video or audio explanations/links, and increasingly so invites to live ‘meets’ or live ‘lessons’ on zoom.

Teachers have been asked to support you further by increasingly providing short, simple, verbal (audio/video) and written explanations as far as possible, and will be providing at least 3 hours of learning a day (in line with DfE guidance this week).

New work for the start of next week will be uploaded today, and the work for days later in the week will be available in good time too.

Area of Learning	Year 6 (Tuesday 12 th January)
Reading 	<p>Weekly overview: This week, the theme of our Guided Reading is books by the author Katherine Rundell. Over the course of three 1-hour lessons, we will share snippets of Rundell's books: Rooftoppers, The Good Thieves and Wolf Wilder. We are learning to use our reading brain by thinking carefully about what we can infer from what we have read. We are also focusing on retrieving information from the text, sometimes with evidence.</p> <p>Today's Learning: (All resources are included at the end of this document / in One Drive) Apprentice – Complete a bug club book and quiz. Professional – Read the text 'The Good Thieves' and then complete the answers to the questions. Ensure your solo task is completed in detail. Expert – Read the text 'The Good Thieves' and then complete the answers to the questions. Ensure your solo task is completed in detail.</p>
Writing 	<p>Weekly overview: This week, we are starting our lessons about the text 'The Secret of Black Rock'. This will be completed using a 'sentence stacking' technique which children are familiar with from school. The lessons involve watching one lesson a day from YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/c/TheTrainingSpace)</p> <p>Today's Learning: (All resources are included at the end of this document / in One Drive) Watch the video (Day 1) and join in – remember that you can pause the video when you would like in order to go at your own pace.</p>
Maths  	<p>Weekly overview: AT LEAST 5 GAMES PER DAY IN 'GARAGE' ON TT ROCKSTARS!! This week, we are focusing on developing understanding of coordinates in all four quadrants, including developing skills using negative numbers, using this understanding to draw, translate and reflect shapes on a coordinate grid.</p> <p>Today's Learning: (All resources are included at the end of this document / in One Drive) Apprentice – Watch the video https://classroom.thenational.academy/lessons/to-describe-positions-on-a-2d-grid-as-coordinates-c4w66r Complete the accompanying sheet 'Describe position as a 2-D grid as coordinates.'</p>

You will see a weekly overview and how that day's task fits in to the sequence (Today's learning...)



To **advance** our remote learning capabilities we plan to move over to **GOOGLE CLASSROOM** in the coming weeks, which supports live lessons, video clips, targeted work setting and collection of work in much less 'clunky' set up. Please bear with us while we do our final 'skilling up' on this new platform. *Your log ins will be sent when we are ready to make the switch.* (Google classroom is accessible on 'CHROME' including mobiles, tablets, PCs etc)

If we see that your child is not engaging with home learning, or that you are not seeing our 'posts' we will be following this up by phone with you. The first lockdown appears to have set some children back by up to 6 months, so we must work with all families to support your child's learning as best we can.

Xbox, Playstation and Amazon firesticks....

Did you know... Class Dojo (and google classroom) should be accessible on the Playstation (3, 4, 5) and Xbox 360 if linked to WIFI/broadband routers?

This video link shows a teacher accessing 'Microsoft Teams' on an Xbox (but it works the same for 'Class Dojo' and 'Google classroom' through the web browsing app)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CiNzN8QxIRI>



- Plug in a USB keyboard
- Go to 'My games and apps'
- Find Microsoft Edge
- Type in 'Class Dojo' then log in (ask Mr Beveridge or the teacher if you don't know the codes)
- To move around the screen, use the Xbox control or plug in a mouse
- You should be able to watch our videos, access links and documents for home learning



- Go to the 'library' and find options for 'games and applications'
- Go into applications and you will find the internet browser 'WWW' (with dots around it)
- Type in 'Class Dojo' then log in (ask Mr Beveridge or the teacher if you don't know the codes)
- You should be able to watch our videos, access links and documents for home learning

On the Amazon firestick there is a web browser called 'Silk' – worth a try if the TV stick is another option in your household.

And the winner is...

Autumn Term Awards Ceremony

Our awards ceremony at the end of term was postponed due to school closure on 18th December. We are moving this event online – Friday 15th January at 2pm. If your child is an award winner for the Autumn Term of 2020, you will receive a 'zoom' invite for 2pm next Friday. Staff will then talk about who and why these awards are being given. We aim to deliver certificates and trophies to children's doorsteps from 19th January!

The categories, as always, are:

- Dragonfly awards R, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (2 children; 1 boy, 1 girl, per year group)
- Leadership awards (2x Y6)
- Learner of the term (Saplings, KS1, Lower Key Stage 2, Upper Key Stage 2)
- Sports award (1 child)
- Arts award (1 child)
- Headteachers award (1 child)

Signing off...

That is definitely enough for this week – I wonder what next week will bring? *I'm off to read the 60 page updated guidance for schools that arrived this morning...* and I'm looking forward to browsing your children's work on Dojo too 😊

With my best wishes, and keep safe!

Mr Beveridge