

Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a fantastic week of learning both at home and for those children at school. Well done to all of those children who are engaging in their home learning, watching their teachers' videos and PowerPoints, completing their work to the best of their ability and submitting it for feedback from their teachers. A year ago, we would never have even imagined that this is how learning would be. However, we should make the time to pause and celebrate how much we have achieved and developed as a learning community in a relatively short space of time!

Please, please do continue to upload home learning on a daily basis as the teachers use this to inform the next steps in their planning, give appropriate feedback and it helps them to assess where your child's learning is at the moment.

You may have heard the Prime Minister's announcement yesterday that schools will continue to be closed until 8th March 2021. We will continue to provide home learning through Frog after half term. School will be closed for half term, week beginning 15th February 2021, as both the children and school staff do need a well-earned break.

This week, teachers who have been in school teaching their bubbles have also made phone calls home to check on their children who are learning from home. Once again, this is a reminder that although you are working from home, there is no way that we have forgotten about you!

As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, at Finham Primary we are always reviewing our remote learning. As well as learning, the mental health of children and their well-being is always at the forefront of our minds. As a result, we are planning for teachers to host live sessions with small groups of children in their classes, who are learning from home. These will not be lessons, they will be a well-being check in so that children at home can see their teacher and some of their peers digitally. We are in the planning stages for this and are waiting for confirmation from our Data Protection Officer to give the green light. Once this happens, we will inform you about the next stage.

Whilst we are on the topic of well-being, Mr Tickle has been uploading some brilliant PE challenges on Frog. Physical and emotional well-being are so important, they can go hand-in-hand and are so often neglected. It might be fun to do some of his challenges as a family! I know that I will be joining in to the best of my ability too!

Next week, across the country it is Mental Health Awareness week. I thought that we could mark this as a school community by creating hearts both at home and at school. These hearts can be as big or as small as you like. They could be created in any way. The purpose is to focus our minds on the present moment and to appreciate that although we are going through some incredibly challenging times, it is love and kindness that will see us through this. We would love to see your fantastic creations! Please do upload pictures/videos of them to Frog.

Some of you will have started to receive your children's logins and passwords to access the online Collins e-books. Please bear with us, as each child's information has to be emailed separately for data protection. Once you have received this, please do follow the instructions and your child will have been assigned reading books that they will be able to access straight away.

Please have a good weekend, it may snow again – so enjoy the weather and take care.

Mrs Bracken
Head Teacher

PARENTS EVENING VIRTUAL

Parents Evening will be taking place on Tuesday 23rd & Thursday 25th February. We will be using the same system we used in October last year (School Cloud). Booking information will be sent out w/c 8th February. The appointments last for 10 minutes from your start time. You must press start at the beginning, after ten minutes the appointment will end.

SCHOOL OFFICE

Due to Covid there are limited office staff in school at present, please understand that we cannot always answer the phone, please leave a message and we will get back to you. Many thanks

NURSERY APPLICATIONS

If your child was born between 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2018 your child is eligible to come to Finham Primary's Nursery from September 2021. **The deadline for applications is 31st January, 2021.** Please complete a Nursery Application form which is on our website or contact the school office for a paper copy.

HEARTS FOR HOMES

We are doing a whole school community project to spread some cheer to elderly people in local care homes who may be lonely and can't see their families. We are going to be sending some hearts to them for Valentine's Day. We need the children to write a lovely cheery message in a heart or write a poem or draw a lovely picture in the heart. If they write a message – we ask them to do it neatly and check their spelling. They can do some patterns, designs or small pictures with their message. Please post these back on Frog or email admin@finhamprimary.co.uk so we can download them and print them off. Please ask your child to complete their heart by Monday February 8th. Thank you. It would be lovely if as many children as possible could participate so we can send a bundle of hearts to some of the care homes in the local area. Here are a couple we have already received. Keep them coming i



CHILD ILLNESS/CHANGE OF CIRCUMSTANCES

Please notify the school if your child is ill or there are any changes in your personal circumstances (ie bereavement) and they are unable to complete the Home Learning. We do not expect your child to do home learning if they are poorly. Many thanks.

FROG CHECK IN

Please can we remind you to get your child to complete the 'Check In' forms on their Frog pages. Thank you.

COVID SYMPTONS

What are the symptoms of coronavirus?

One, or more, of the following:

- High temperature – this means feeling hot to touch on the chest or back
- New, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- Loss of change to smell or taste – meaning not being able to smell or taste anything or things smell or taste different to normal

