

**Anson Newsletter 17**

**15.1.2021**

****

Dear Parents and Carers

Congratulations, you have made it through a week of home learning!

Our usual newsletter will be suspended for a time – due to the majority of our children working from home, but I will still continue to keep you updated with events that affect you and your family. Therefore, the majority of this week’s news relates to home learning and Covid-19.

**Home Learning**

Last week and this week have been the start of our new way of learning, which for the majority of children has been from home. Parents/Carers have now become teachers again…and as educators we know it is not without its challenges. We know that sometimes being able to complete all of the work set or attend google meets will be difficult to achieve but we want the children to have a routine and structure to the day which will help them achieve a feeling of normality during such times. However, this should not be to the detriment to the adults living and working from home. Children staying connected to their class teachers, teaching assistants and friends is vital for children’s mental health but this, we recognise, has to be balanced with the mental health and wellbeing of the adults too!

We have considered very carefully the amount of work set each day. All our children will have maths, English and reading tasks to complete with Foundation subjects spread out throughout the week which should be related to the curriculum planned for the spring term. However, if your child cannot complete a task on a given day, then please don’t worry they can catch-up with this later in the term when they return to school.

However, if you find your child is completing the work set in a few hours then check that the work is completed properly and to a high standard as all this work will be returned to school and should reflect the child’s usual standard. If your child is struggling with the work set, then check they understand the task and try breaking it down into smaller chunks so it is less overwhelming.

Top Tip: Try to work for 20-30 minutes and then have a short break. Younger children do not have the capacity to focus for more than 20 minutes so breaks are essential to aid their learning – play a board game; complete a jigsaw; watch a programme; read a book; take some exercise – just do something away from a screen.

**Remember:** Contact the school office and we will ask the class teacher to discuss any concerns that you might have about the work set.

If you would like some suggestions to support home learning and establishing routines, please follow the link:

<https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/news/2021-01-15-home-learning-useful-tips>

**Assignments:**

Last lockdown, things were very different. Parents were expected to take photographs of their children’s work, upload it and wait for a mark from the teacher. Although this was exciting to begin with, it soon became a challenge for some adults because sometimes time constraints.

Reflecting upon this week, we would like to clarify our expectations:

* All assignments will be available for the children to complete through the Google Classroom
* All children will attend their morning Google Meet for registration (contact office if not possible)
* Children are invited to attend afternoon Google Meet **– not compulsory**
* All children will be guided by their teacher for work to be completed for that day
* 6 children per day **from KS1 and KS2** will be requested to turn in or upload their work for the class teacher to mark in depth (initially children will be selected during morning registration)
* Children can continue to upload images of their work if they want to, but there **is no expectation** from the class teacher that this has to happen
* Reception can continue to send in their work as they have done this week
* All **KS1 and KS2** will be provided with an answer sheet for their maths so that they can self-mark their work (adult can mark)
* Maths, English and Guided Reading assignments will be set every day **KS1 and KS2**
* Foundation subjects will be spread out over the week
* Maths booklets will be provided **when they arrive** for children to complete
* All work in books will be completed to the children’s standard in school
* All work will be returned to school for the class teacher to assess following the lockdown

Polite Reminder: Please only contact the class teacher through the following email addresses if your child needs support or has a question about their work.

Class 1 -  anson.class1@tssmat.staffs.sch.uk

Class 2 -  anson.class2@tssmat.staffs.sch.uk

Class 3 - anson.class3@tssmat.staffs.sch.uk

Class 4 -  anson.class4@tssmat.staffs.sch.uk

Home Learning can be found by following the links below:

Class 1: <https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/blog/category/class-1>

Class 2: <https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/blog/category/class-2>

Class 3: <https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/blog/category/class-3>

Class 4: <https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/blog/category/class-4>

**Google Classroom:**

**Miss Humphries has produced a page on our website dedicated to Google Classroom. There are short videos that you can watch that will help guide you and support you during this time.**

**If you would like to learn a little more about Google Classroom, then please follow the link:**

[**https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/news/2021-01-15-google-classroom**](https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/news/2021-01-15-google-classroom)

**Key workers and Vulnerable Children**

Although school is closed for the majority of children, some children will be in school because of their parent/carers jobs and/or their personal status. If you feel you qualify for this provision, then please visit the government website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

However, in the spirit of the lockdown, we ask if you use this provision only if there is no other adult available to be with the child: as you can appreciate, we have limited capacity being a small school and having to keep the staff as well as the children safe.

**Dates for the Diary**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Friday 15th January 2021** | **Deadline for Reception 2021 applications**[**https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/events/2021-01-15-deadline-for-primary-school-applications-1**](https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/events/2021-01-15-deadline-for-primary-school-applications-1) |
| **Tuesday 9th February 2021** | **Parents Evening – Postponed** [**https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/events/2021-02-09-virtual-parents-evening**](https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/events/2021-02-09-virtual-parents-evening) |
| **Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February 2021** | **Half Term Holidays**[**https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/events/2021-02-15-half-term-holiday**](https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/events/2021-02-15-half-term-holiday) |
| **Thursday 4th March 2021** | **World Book Day**[**https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/events/2021-03-05-world-book-day-march-4th-2021**](https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/events/2021-03-05-world-book-day-march-4th-2021) |
| **Friday 19th March 2021** | **Red Nose Day**[**https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/events/2021-03-19-comic-relief-red-nose-day**](https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/events/2021-03-19-comic-relief-red-nose-day) |
| **Friday 2nd April – Friday 16th April 2021**  | **Easter Holidays**[**https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/events/2021-04-02-easter-holidays-3**](https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/events/2021-04-02-easter-holidays-3) |

Well done to all of you and all of the children for working exceptionally hard and ensuring our children continue to learn even during these exceptional times – thank you!

Best wishes and stay safe

Nicola Jarrett

Headteacher