

**Anson Newsletter 19**

**29.1.2021**

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Dear Parents and Carers

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

As our usual newsletter will be suspended for a time – due to the majority of our children working from home - these are our updates.

**Children’s Mental Health Week 1-7 February 2021**

This week is an opportunity to shine a spotlight on the importance of children’s mental health. We know that many of children’s mental health has been affected over the past year and this has impacted further still by this lockdown in January.

According to a survey completed by the charity, Place2Be, the leading school-based children’s mental health charity, 85% of the young people supported had been negatively affected by the pandemic. The charity’s vision of the future, aligns to ours, where no child has to face mental health problems alone.

During this important week, children will be asked to participate in lots of fun activities and these will form part of their school work during the day. We will ask the children to dress in colourful clothes that could reflect how they are feeling or simply wear their favourite colour for the day, we will keep you posted. Dress to Express Day is a perfect way to express a diverse range of emotions and raise the profile of this very important issue.

Teachers will inform your child/children through google classroom of the activities to be completed for the day, so please remember to attend your google meets to stay informed.

**Nursery:**

Although our older children are having to work from home, nursery has remained open. If you would like to see what nursery have been doing the simply visit our website and follow the link below.

<https://anson.staffs.sch.uk/blog/category/nursery-blog>

**Home Learning**

This week, I have been able to join all our classes through google meet which I must say - made my day. All the children were chatting about their work and happy to share finished pieces which was very exciting. All our children have worked incredibly hard this week and it is testament to the care and dedication given by staff to ensure work is accessible to all, but also the super support given by grown-ups. We all appreciate this situation isn’t easy but I know that working together we will get through this and embrace school life again very soon.

**Reminder:**

We know that sometimes being able to complete all of the work set or attend google meets will be difficult to achieve but we have been thrilled that 100% attendance has been recorded for morning meets this week. 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!

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.** 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>

**Important reminder**

**Assignments:**

Our expectations are

* 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 Reading/ Phonics 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.

**ParentPay:**

Please keep a check on your ParentPay account to ensure payments are kept up to date. If you require support at any time, please contact the school office: **01889 881 200**

**Dates for the Diary**

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| **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) |

I hope you all have a well-earned rest and, fingers crossed, the sun continues to shine this weekend!

Best wishes and stay safe

Nicola Jarrett

Headteacher