

**Anson Newsletter 20**

**5.2.2021**

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Dear Parents and Carers

A huge thank you to all of you for the support and dedication you have shown towards your children’s 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**

During this important week, children have been involved in lots of fun activities during the school day. The children have certainly loved playing games such as Simon Says, charades, top 10 and many more which proved very popular and certainly made everyone smile.

I certainly think that everyone enjoyed dressing up this week. I loved seeing all the colourful clothes on Multi-coloured Monday; the summer creations for Tropical Tuesday; the very funny hairstyles on Whacky Wednesday; the inside out/ back to front clothes on Topsy-turvy Thursday; and the very sensational outfits for Fancy Friday!

Simple things during these very strange times make an incredible difference to how we think and feel so thank you for encouraging your children to participate even if they are at home.

Lots of the ideas and activities that can be found for supporting children’s mental health and wellbeing are available online so if you do find your child is becoming a little withdrawn or feeling anxious, then always talk to their teacher, contact the school or follow the link below to some useful sites.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk>

It is so important to talk about how children are feeling and that they know it’s ok to feel a bit anxious or worried because everyone feels like this sometimes. However, try a monitor how much news is watched whilst the children are at home and conversations about the virus are kept to a minimum only this continual focus upon the pandemic can only have a negative impact on your child’s mental health.

**Pyjama Friday**

We think that our children have worked exceptionally hard this half term and that Friday should be a time to relax a little. Therefore, this Friday we would like to have a whole school pyjama day. Children who attend school are also invited to wear their pyjamas to school. We hope this will be a fun way to end this half term!

**Celebration Assembly**

Friday 12th February you are invited to join a special assembly celebrating the outstanding efforts of our children during lockdown. On your child’s google classroom, their teacher will send a request for parents to nominate their child or children for a variety of things: it could be for a child who has got up every day (without moaning or groaning) and have been ready for the google meet. All nominations will be viewed by staff and the winners will be celebrated on Friday. We know that all our children deserve a medal for the effort and dedication they have shown towards their learning but we would like your help to make a final decision to who is awarded with a special certificate.

If you would like to nominate your child, then please email the class and all nominations will be made available for their class to see.

**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 especially impressed with the attendance for google meets from every class. Most days, 100% of our children have been able to join their class teacher and teaching assistant which is proving vital to supporting their learning from home. Well done everyone!

**Reminder:**

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 super weekend filled with happiness and joy!

Best wishes and stay safe

Nicola Jarrett

Headteacher