



Education Resources
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David Livingstone Memorial Primary School

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Date: 28th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Online Learning – Our Next Steps for Week Beginning 1st February 2021

I hope that you and your children have enjoyed the online learning on offer this week. This week, all staff were challenged with speaking over a PowerPoint presentation as part of their weekly offering. I am sure you will agree that they all did a fantastic job! This is something that staff will continue to post on their Google Classroom each week from now on, so please look out for this. These presentations will be recorded, so they will be available to watch at any time, regardless of when your child logs on.

Once again, I have been blown away by the range of activities posted for each of our classes, as well as the standard of work that the children have produced. A sincere thank you to all our parents, carers and other family members for your support with this. Over 90% of our school posted up evidence of their learning last week, an 8% increase from the previous week, which is a great achievement. Let's aim for even higher this week!

During week beginning 1st February, teachers will continue to have 2 Google Meets with their classes and support staff will join the children for these. The format of these will change slightly as staff will begin doing some live teaching at this time in line with Scottish Government guidance, so please try to ensure that your child joins in at their allocated time. There will, hopefully, also be some time at the end for a fun activity for everyone too as feedback that we have received has shown that this has been a highlight for many children. We love to see the children's faces on screen, but if your child feels uncomfortable about this, he/she can still attend the Google Meet but keep their camera switched off. Their name still appears on the screen so we will still be able to see that they are in attendance and the most important thing is that they hear what is being said.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our Google form asking for your views on our existing remote learning provision last week. We will continue to work our way through your suggestions in the weeks to come. As a first step, as of Monday (1st February) staff will begin posting up the children's tasks the previous evening at 9pm. Hopefully this allows parents who are working to have more time to get organised in advance of starting their own job, whilst still giving teachers time to make amendments to their plans in light of the children's responses from that day. Even though tasks are being posted up earlier, children should not start them until the allocated day, just like they would do in school.

Please remember that you and your child should only do what you can manage given your individual family circumstances. If you cannot do everything, try not to become anxious about this. Instead, it's probably best to prioritise the Literacy and Numeracy tasks if you can. Remember, too,

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that children need to have regular breaks and the opportunity to play during the day, too. There is no expectation that any of our children should be sitting at a screen or even at a table for lengthy periods each day. All of our challenge tasks are optional and should only be completed if you feel that your child has the time to do them. Please also bear in mind that you do not need to post up absolutely everything that your child does either, so you can just select a couple of things if that helps?

Class teachers will continue to be on the live stream on Google Classroom to answer any questions and to give feedback to children for 2 separate hours per day: one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoon. These will vary from class to class so please look on Google Classroom every day to find out when these will be for your own child. Please remember that anything that is posted up after the time when the teacher is finished on the live stream for the afternoon will receive a response the following day. Could we also ask that children only post up work on the Stream or under the Classwork tab, attached to the assignment, not both. If your child's class teacher has a particular preference for one or the other, he/she will let the children know in a post on their Google Classroom. If you are unsure of how to access these different areas, please look at the 'Submitting Your Work on Google Classroom' document on the January 2021 section on our school website. This document has also been posted on all of our Google Classrooms.

When your child submits work on Google Classroom, their teacher will write a private comment on it, then return the work to the child so that he/she can read this comment. This also allows us to keep track of whose work has already received feedback, so please do not resubmit anything after it has been returned to your child as it will appear as though it is still unmarked. To help with this, staff will post all their different activities separately, rather than as a daily pack as of Monday, 1st February. This should also help with children who might be overawed with seeing everything at the same time. If possible, we would appreciate it if the children's work can also be submitted as separate documents too. As you know, online learning is a totally new experience for all of us, so your ongoing patience as we continue to become more familiar with the use of Google Classroom is greatly appreciated.

If you have any problems accessing Google Classroom from home, please email Miss Lattimer (Acting Depute Head Teacher) and she will do her best to help (gw07lattimerjennifer@glow.sch.uk). We also still have a small number of devices that we are able to loan out to families to support them with learning at home should you not have anything of your own. Please either phone or email Miss Lattimer if this is something that you require.

I know that this continues to be a very anxious time for everyone, but please remember that this will not last forever and there will come a time in the near future when we can all be back together again. As always, if you have any questions or concerns in relation to remote learning and/or your personal family circumstances, please do not hesitate to contact me by either phoning the school (01698 823680) or by emailing me directly (gw14dlmpsht@glow.sch.uk). We are here to help if we can.

Yours sincerely

Linda Callender
Head Teacher