

Boughton Monchelsea Primary

Newsletter

Friday 8th January

Week 1 – completed!

Thank you to everyone in our wonderful school community for pulling together so brilliantly to respond to the latest lockdown situation. While we were more fortunate than some schools, who only learnt on Monday evening that they would be closing, we have still had to pull out all the stops to put provision in place in school for keyworker children, at the same time as putting our remote learning strategy into action. There may be some slight changes to our remote learning provision throughout the term, as we find new ways to refine and develop our offer, but I am satisfied that we have a firm foundation on which to build and I have been pleased to see that the vast majority of children have been able to engage in quality learning activities this week. As we go through the term, we will seek parent views to help us develop our provision, so that it works best for everyone.

Some parents have been asking why we are not live-streaming class lessons. Just to clarify, this is not the norm for primary schools and is not necessarily best practice. It would disadvantage pupils without their own individual device at home, and would not allow teachers to provide the individual feedback and support that they can at present.

We have all been on a steep learning curve with Google Classroom and Meet. Thank you for persevering with the technical challenges, which I hope are largely addressed now. Can we remind parents that the Meet session each morning is an important opportunity for the teacher to convey information about the day's learning, so children at home need to be focused and ready to listen. Please remember to keep your microphone muted, unless you are asked to unmute, and avoid bringing distractions into shot. While it may be lovely to share your pets and baby siblings with your classmates, it is quite off-putting for the teacher and other pupils when they make an appearance on screen!

If you have an Xbox or Playstation, you can use it to access Google Classroom. This link explains how;

<https://www.pocket-lint.com/apps/news/google/155204-how-to-use-google-classroom-on-xbox-and-playstation>

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Home Learning Books and Reading Books

Home Learning exercise books are available to pick up from the School Office. Please call ahead, so that the office staff can label the book and leave it for collection. We are now able to send home reading books. Please contact your child's teacher to arrange this.

Support

We want to make sure that our families feel supported while we are not together in school, so please do get in touch if you are struggling with any aspect of home learning or wellbeing.

Mrs Chapman, Family Support Manager (parenting and general family matters)
leann.chapman@boughton-monchelsea.kent.sch.uk

Miranda Romano, SENCO (for pupils with specialist learning or emotional needs)
senco@boughton-monchelsea.kent.sch.uk

Any other queries can be addressed to myself, class teachers or the School Office.

Read for Life

It seems like a long time ago, but we launched our home reading challenge in term 2, and we have some winners!

1st Sevenoaks with 208 hours of reading
2nd Canterbury with 202 hours of reading
3rd Rochester with 189 hours of reading
4th Dover with 151 hours of reading

Class 5 were the best overall class with the most hours of reading overall and the top individual readers in each class were;

Class 1 – Scarlett N.

Class 2 – Oliver L.

Class 3 – Joshua T

Class 4 – Lacie D.

Class 5 – Bode S.

Class 6 – Keslar A.

Well done to everyone who took part. Keep up the reading at home!

Assembly

I will be leading a whole school Zoom assembly next Friday at 11.00am. Please join me then!
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84090695744?pwd=TWYyYW14c04xZGI1bjFCeXJqRm16QT09>

Have a lovely weekend and I look forward to hearing about your learning next week.
Ruth Roberts