

THIS WEEK

Happy New Year to you all - the Christmas Holidays certainly seem longer than just a week ago! We find ourselves in extraordinary times at the moment and it is more important than ever that we continue to all support one another, whether we are now learning from home, or learning in school. I would like to thank all of the staff who have worked tirelessly this week to ensure that both our 'Home Learners' and our 'School-Based Learners' continue to have access to high quality learning experiences. During this period of lockdown, we will be doing all that we can to ensure equality and consistency of provision for all children, whether they are working from home or in school. Our weekly newsletters will continue to be circulated and our half-termly newsletters have all been distributed today as normal.

My thanks also go to the many parents who have been in touch to thank staff for their efforts this week - this has been very much appreciated. Should you need to contact your child's class teacher during this period of lockdown, please do use our new year group email addresses, which were shared with you in my Covid Update letter earlier this week. These email addresses will be checked between 8.30am and 3.15pm each day. Please do be aware though that staff are teaching children in school and at home throughout the day, so may not be able to respond to you immediately.

Information for 'Home Learners'

Thank you to all of those families who have already collected their child's 'Home Learning Book' from school - if you haven't yet collected your child's book, please can you come and pick it up as soon as you can as it contains all of their 'log on' information to enable them to access the live sessions next week.

Our thanks also go to all of the families who have engaged with our Microsoft Teams trials this week; there have been some teething problems, but we are all learning together on this one! Please can we ask you to ensure that your children's videos are off and their microphone is muted before entering the meeting.

On Monday, we will be fully rolling out our home learning timetable. We hope that all children will be able to log in to teams between 9.00 and 9.30 each morning to 'check-in' with their year group team before then working through their timetable on the VLE. Teaching staff will be available on Teams throughout the day to support children with any queries, or concerns.

We would like to reassure you that we absolutely recognise the challenges of home learning (many of us are parents ourselves, as well as being teachers). Although we are required by the government to provide 3-4 hours of teaching and learning a day, as parents it is up to you how you manage your child's timetable, once they have attended 'check in' each morning. We also understand that where families have more than one child at home, or have a limited number of devices, having the flexibility to adapt the timetable to meet your family's needs will be important to you. Finally, we know that there will be times where everyone needs a 'breath of fresh air' a good walk / play outside to avoid too much time at a screen - and we want to let you know that we support this too!

If you have any technological issues in terms of accessing either the VLE or teams, please do not hesitate to contact us and someone will get back in touch with you as soon as possible.

Information for 'School-Based Learners'

We are delighted with how well our 'School-Based' Learners have settled into their new routines. The children are continuing to be taught in their year groups bubbles with a year group specific team of staff supporting them.

Children will need their PE Kits in school next week on the following days: Reception (Monday), Year 1 (Wednesday), Year 2 (Wednesday), Year 3 (Thursday), Year 4 (Friday), Year 5 (Friday) and Year 6 (Thursday).

If your child is attending school on a part-time, rather than full-time basis, please can we ask you to email the office to clarify the days on which your child won't be attending school, so that we can confirm staffing arrangements. On the days your child is learning from home, they will need to access the daily 'check in' as above and also complete their work in their Home Learning Book.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Mon: Ham/Margherita Pizza, or a Jacket **Tue:** Bacon & Tomato Pasta/Quorn Meatballs, or a Jacket
Wed: BBQ Chicken, BBQ Quorn Fillets or a Jacket
Thurs: Fish & Chips, Tomato Pasta, or a Jacket
Fri: Chicken Katsu Curry, Pumpkin Katsu Curry or a Jacket

NOTICEBOARD

Music Lessons

Mrs Armstrong is currently liaising with the peripatetic staff to try to enable lessons to continue for both our 'Home Learners' and 'School-Based Learners'. Lesson times will be confirmed with you as soon as possible.

Contacting the office

The school office is closed to visitors during this period of lockdown, but the team will be available by telephone and by email.

01274 598540

office@baildonce.co.uk

Twitter!

Throughout lockdown, we will be sharing a range of useful resources and updates on Twitter. Please follow our Twitter handle @BaildonCE for more information

Year 2 Heroes and Villains Day!

Year 2's postponed 'Heroes and Villains Day' will be taking place next Friday for both 'Home Learners' and 'School-Based Learners' - we look forward to sharing some of their work on Twitter!

Tablets to support our 'Home Learners'

Our 'Home Learners' are currently engaging in their learning through tablets, games consoles and other similar devices. We have unfortunately only been allocated six additional devices by the DFE to support families in need of technological support and we require many more than this. If you have any spare, older tablets at home which are able to access the internet and which you may be willing to donate to school to support our community, please get in touch with Mr Holliday through the school office. Thank you in advance for your support!

Covid Information for School-Based Learners

It is more important than ever that we work to keep our community safe by ensuring that children do not attend school if they, or any member of their family, have any of the three main Covid symptoms, including a temperature, persistent cough, or loss of taste or smell. Should your child or anyone in your family have any of these symptoms, then a Covid test should be arranged and your whole household should self-isolate.

If your child is a 'School Based Learner' and they test positive for Covid, then please can you contact us as soon as possible (by telephone or email) as we may need to quickly close a bubble in school and arrange for children to work from home.