



THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL
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'Small School, Big Opportunities, Great Achievements'

Monday 18th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Home Learning

I am really pleased to see and hear that most children working at home, are engaging well with the work the teacher has set. I know this is a difficult time for parents managing your own work commitments alongside home learning, especially with younger children who are less independent and require more attention, your support is very much appreciated. In order to make the next month run as smoothly as possible I thought it would be helpful to share a few reminders from our Home Learning Policy:

- If you as a parent have a query re home learning, **please send your query to the office with the class name in the subject line of the email. Please do not email teachers directly or via SeeSaw.** We would like to respectfully remind you that **staff managing home learning are not available to respond to queries at the weekend.** They are only available to respond to emails/on Seesaw to children between **8:45am-3:15pm Monday to Friday and after school in line with their directed time. Please note that the period of time after school is also used for weekly staff/leadership meetings and staff may also be required to attend online training.**
- Please be mindful that teachers/TAs are managing face to face support in class as well as supporting home learning remotely, many too have their own families/personal circumstances they are trying to manage. For these and safeguarding reasons we are not undertaking 'live lessons.' Instead, teachers are increasingly utilising video support where applicable for explanations/introducing new concepts.
- Wherever possible, please encourage your child to **upload their learning after each session/piece.** This will help ensure your children receives feedback promptly whilst staff are available online. If this is left to the evening, staff are not available online and so will not be able to respond until the following morning, when support may be needed as a result of the learning set that day, whilst also responding to current work being returned. If your child is in Reception/Year 1, the parent role is more hands on with uploading work. If this is difficult alongside your own work commitments, please let your child's classteacher know and we can arrange something in this case, we would rather receive the work late than not at all in such **exceptional circumstances.** This is only possible in the very small minority of cases.
- If home learning is not being completed by your child, the teacher will follow up by email and with a phone call. It is essential your child completes the work set to avoid falling behind and therefore struggling with work that follows both at home and when they return following lockdown. If we continue to see gaps in learning this may raise other concerns, including that of a safeguarding nature and will prompt communication from myself to better understand the circumstances behind this and ensure support is provided wherever possible.

We know it is a very difficult to be in this situation again and hope we can continue to work as an extended family to best support the children. We look forward to celebrating the children's success through SeeSaw, our Celebration Assemblies and newsletters.

Best Wishes ,

Mrs S. Norton
Headteacher

