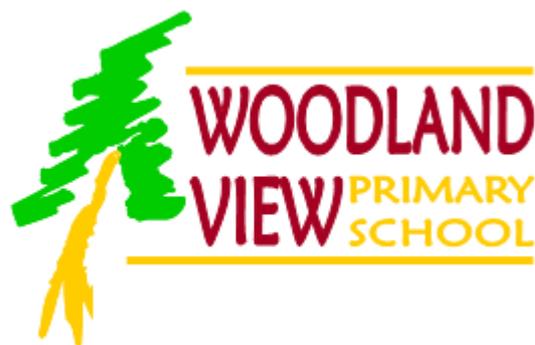


Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Headteacher Newsletter No.351



Dear Parents

Hi! I hope you are keeping well and happy.

Firstly, I apologise for the amount of content in this letter and related attachments. It is all important so please do read it.

## Home Learning

Thank you for your feedback about Home Learning opportunities, almost entirely positive. We are continually reviewing things and here are the next stages of development.



### **Advance Notice of Resources**

Some parents would welcome more warning about activities coming up so they can be well prepared. We will therefore ask teachers to send out a message on the Google Classroom at the end of each week flagging up any resources that might be needed for each activity in the following week. This won't be perfect, some activities may be created at shorter notice, but we hope it helps.



### **Reading**

I attach our support guide to Reading Home Learning. We know the books we sent home will have been exhausted so here is a route to get access to reading books online at the right level for your child. Regular reading is key for all pupils.

### **Phonics**

For parents of children in FS, Year 1 and Year 2, our guide to Phonics Home Learning is also attached. Some Year 3 pupils may also benefit from these activities and resources. Phonics is a vital part of learning the basic reading skills needed in order to teach your child how to say the sounds that we use in the English language. Phonics then gives them the skills needed in order to blend these sounds together to read words, and segment them to decode (put the sounds together and break them apart to read a whole word). Daily phonics activities are outlined. Teachers will outline the stage your child is working at via Google Classroom.



### **Wellbeing**

We are launching a virtual Rainbow Room. Open to all pupils, it will host optional activities based on **wellbeing**, from **mindfulness** to **emotions**, from **self-esteem** to **positive thinking**. Your child will receive an invitation to this separate Google Classroom shortly.



## Interim Reports

Your child's interim report will be emailed, in the next 24 hours, to your primary email contact address. These reflect your child's attainments up to the point of school closure. Please note the targets your child has been given as these will help you understand what they could focus on in their English and Maths tasks.

## ChatHealth

The School Nurse team has set up a useful contact service. Here is a message from them:

ChatHealth, the school nurse messaging service, is confidential and available Monday to Friday from 08.00 to 16.30. We are expanding this service to provide a messaging service for parents and carers of school aged children and young people, as well as young people. You can message for advice on all kinds of health issues concerning your child or young person, such as emotional health and wellbeing, bullying, healthy eating, sexual health and any general health concerns. Look out for more information from your child or young person's school.

*The text number for*

*ChatHealth Northamptonshire is;*

**07507 329600**

*There is no charge for this service.*



## Online Safety

I attach the latest Online Safety newsletter with helpful tips for parents about keeping your child safe.

## School Ping

We are switching to a new and improved communications system called School Ping. The one main change for you will be that messages will not be sent as texts but as push notifications to an App on your phone, that you are asked to download. This week you will receive an email with instructions for installing the App on your device. Please support us by doing this as soon as possible.

*The current text messaging system will cease at the end of May so we have three weeks to get everyone on board please. Thank you in advance.*

## Future Steps

Like you, we await news on when and how the lockdown will be lifted. Re-opening the school will be a highly complex process. We can't plan for this until we have direction from the government but we will communicate with you as soon as we have a plan in place.

Yours sincerely

Mr Thomas  
Headteacher