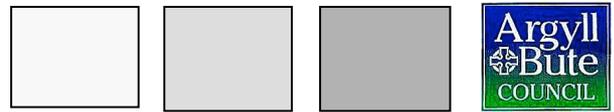




Hermitage Primary School



Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

With the Government's announcement to close schools, we are aware that families are thinking about the impact this will have on their children's education.

While this letter details some resources you can use with your children at home, we'd like to highlight that during this period of international disruption your child's health and wellbeing will be more important than their academic skills.

How they felt during this time will stay with them long after the memory of what they did.

Don't worry about them 'regressing' while they're out of school; every child in the land is in the same boat, and when we gather together again in our classrooms we will meet them again, where they are in their learning to meet their educational needs.

However, we do wish to provide you with things to do together to enrich your days.

Obviously we realise that situations will vary from family to family and your ability to engage with this may differ.

Staff have worked very hard over the course of this week to prepare this facility. It will be populated and 'live' from Sunday night and will continue to be updated during the period of closure.

Our intention is not that you **must** use this provision, but rather that it is made available to those who wish it.

School Website

<http://www.hermitageprimaryschool.org/>

Our school website has a new area on the 'Landing Pad' entitled "Home Learning"

This will take you to a new page with 'radio buttons' for each class.



Within each class you will be able to access:

- Links to AR Bookfinder, AR Quizzing platform and Sumdog
- Parent Guides for accessing and continuing with AR
- School support guides in Literacy and Numeracy – with suggestions for home activities
- School Grids for Literacy to be used alongside any spelling or reading work
- Useful, free educational websites
- Learning opportunities in the outdoor environment



It will also contain suggestions of tasks and activities the teacher has prepared for the class to engage in while they are at home. For P1-4 these will sit directly on the school website while for P5-7 they will need to use the GLOW login button to access their existing Google Classrooms.

The intention is to upload these on a weekly basis for you to use as and when you wish.

Please be aware this will also be very much dependant on staff health during this period of uncertainty.

We have tried as far as possible to provide tasks and activities, which require little or no print facility at home.

You'll understand that without teaching input, any new work or concepts cannot be provided and at this stage we are facilitating revision and consolidation of learning.

Any **spelling** activity can concentrate on high frequency words, which are printed in personal planners, or lists and patterns previously learned and you can utilise these alongside our Spelling grids.

Reading for the majority of our children can continue through AR and the guide on the website gives you instructions as to how to access [Book Finder](#) to check the ZPD is appropriate. This facility means you can enjoy the host of books you already have within your own bookshelves at home – or check to see which new books you might like to purchase. After reading, please use this link to enter the [site to quiz](#)

Children have their login details for this and are already used to doing this in school. All they need to do is enter their username and password as normal.

For our younger pupils, who don't yet access AR we recommend using the app, "[Teach Your Monster to Read](#)", which is free at the moment. This is a great resource and provides stories at the appropriate level for your child, in addition to phonic practice and word level work.

You may also like to use [Oxford Owls](#) and [Scholastic](#).

The Personal Planners have lists of key words and letter and number formation that will allow you to continue practise.

We do encourage all to read as much as possible and, again, you can use our Reading grids to enrich this activity.

We will also provide **writing** tasks to enable children to continue to practise their skills in this area. These are things you could enjoy sharing with other family members and friends.

Numeracy support guides already exist on our website and these give ideas for home-based activities to practise skills. Additionally we recommend the use of [Sumdog](#) using pupil logins.

The **list of websites** will also provide a wealth of ways to practise mathematical skills.

You may also choose to encourage your child to engage in a **personal research project**. These are great and give your child freedom and choice in their learning.

Remember learning isn't confined to indoors and we encourage all to get outside when it's safe to do so and enjoy **learning outdoors**. Suggestions are given on ways to make the most of this environment too.

We are aware that internet access may be limited for some families and we will endeavour to provide printed copies of Reading and Spelling grids to those who require them to support work in this area.

Please note that all of our provision can be accessed via smart phones and tablets and do not require the use of a PC.

If you'd like, please also make use of our **Twitter feed** to share some of the things you get up to. We'll all want to keep up with news as much as possible and it's a great way to share your activities. *Please remember to operate as responsible digital citizens though – and don't name or identify your child or their location.*

@HermPrim



WEBSITE LINKS:

AR BookFinder:

www.arbookfind.co.uk

AR Quiz site:

<https://ukhosted3.renlearn.co.uk/2241074/>

Teach Your Monster to Read

<https://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com>

Oxford Owls

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

Scholastic

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html>

Sumdog

www.Sumdog.com

PUPIL LOGINS

Pupils have logins for:

Sumdog (P2-7)

GLOW (P5-7)

AR (P3-7)

***All of these are noted
within their Personal
Planners***

Thank you for your support and patience in these hugely difficult and unprecedented times. We do hope this will give you as much support as we possibly can in this period of uncertainty. You will be in the forefront of our thoughts as we work in different locations.

Very best wishes for the health and well being of you all.

Elsbeth Davis
Head Teacher