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## Dear Parents and Carers

Hope you are all well and completed the remote/online learning for this week without too much difficulty. I am sure that the 'live' teaching sessions have aided your children and yourselves in doing your best to support the children in their learning.

Your child's class teachers should have by now gone through the initial instructions on how to log on to Google classrooms and how to download and then upload work for the teachers to look at and feedback upon. We are hoping that this system will make it much easier for you to manage the learning by accessing the work from one place and return it in the same way. If you are experiencing difficulties then please do consult the guides sent home and/or contact your child's teacher. However, be mindful that they will be teaching all day in school to those children here as well as to everyone at home.

The 'Live' lesson timings remain the same

Reception	Times	Years 1 and 2	Times
Phonics	10.00am	Mathematics	9.00am
Mathematics	11.30am	English/Phonics	11.00am
Topic/story time	2.00pm	Topic/science	1.45pm
Year 3 and 4	Times	Year 5 and 6	Times
Mathematics	9.15am	Mathematics	9.30am
English	10.30am	English	11.15am
Topic	1.15pm	Topic	1.30pm

The teachers still require some PPA (Planning, Preparation Assessment) as usual. Therefore on the following days there will not be live teaching in the afternoon but activities will be provided.

Reception	Monday afternoons	Years 1 and 2	Tuesday afternoons
Years 5 and 6	Wednesday afternoons	Years 3 and 4	Thursday afternoons

The same online protocols mentioned earlier this week are good to keep emphasising. It outlines key aspects such as ensuring the children are ready to learn with the resources i.e. pencils/activity sheets/webpages/dressed (not in pj's) and not in their bedrooms/having an adult next to them or nearby for assistance/listening and being attentive, if you are able to do this. As previously stated please be patient and reassure your child/ren that if they are not chosen to answer a question in one session they will have an opportunity over the course of the day/couple of days. Not all the children can offer ideas and answers every time as is the case in school. There may be times when the chat function is often used by the class teacher to gather ideas. However, this must be used appropriately by the children.

Please do send the work back to the class teachers to look at. The work will be looked at but not necessarily marked individually depending on the nature of the activity and age of the child/ren. We will be employing a general feedback approach to encompass celebration of successes in the work plus areas for development and any misconceptions (errors) that need to be addressed to improve the work. Please refer back to the letter sent out on Wednesday for details of how feedback will work for each key phase within school.

If you have a games console ie Xbox or Playstation or mobile phone you can use these to access the remote learning on Google classroom. Please follow this link for information on how to do this.

[https://www.google.co.uk/amp/s/edtechawesomeness.com/2020/03/17/access-google-classroom-with-your-phone-your-xbox-or-your-playstation/amp/?fbclid=IwAR0ISl1iGzDY5IKNFJlQMhE20dfTHtdv00jXOIqLy\\_v6CTYUxXzla25TAFA](https://www.google.co.uk/amp/s/edtechawesomeness.com/2020/03/17/access-google-classroom-with-your-phone-your-xbox-or-your-playstation/amp/?fbclid=IwAR0ISl1iGzDY5IKNFJlQMhE20dfTHtdv00jXOIqLy_v6CTYUxXzla25TAFA)

Please do let us know if you are struggling with access to technology that will allow your child/ren to join in with the live sessions. We may be able to assist in some way.

The government are also working with mobile network providers to supply additional data for devices i.e. smartphones, for those that need it. As parents, you are not able to apply for this yourselves as it has to go through the school. If you require additional data to aid remote learning engagement please contact myself on [Paul.Smith@almondsburyprimary.co.uk](mailto:Paul.Smith@almondsburyprimary.co.uk) and I will work with you to access this.

If you have any questions or queries regarding the remote/online learning offer please contact either your child's class teachers for specific information or myself for generic ones. We are here to support you all. I am sure you will be amazing supporting your child/ren in the coming weeks. Well done for finishing the first week only 5 more to go! ☺

For the children to be able to continue reading, please do log on to the Reading Planet website with the log on details that were sent home alongside the explanatory letter before the Christmas holidays. I know you probably had other things to do over the holidays but very few have actually logged on. This is the only way that the children will be able to continue reading, if not coming into school to change books. The class teachers will be monitoring the usage of this and encouraging the children to read daily. There are quizzes at the end of each book they read and they can win points for themselves and their class.

The children can also use Times Tables Rock Stars from Year 1 upwards to keep going with their times table learning. Once again the teachers have placed 'battles' between the houses and classes within their key phase.

As from Monday we will have key phase worship meetings with children at the following times. These are at different times to the live learning and should be able to fit into the suggested structured day that are set and posted on the class webpages.

Key phase	Day	Time	Zoom
Reception and Years 1 and 2	Monday	2.45pm	The codes will be sent out to parents on the morning of the worship for each key phase. These will be the same codes and passwords every week between now and the end of this term.
Years 3 and 4	Wednesday	11.30am	
Years 5 and 6	Friday	11.00am	

I know that Gavin Williamson (Secretary of State for Education) suggested that if parents aren't happy with their school remote learning then they should report this to Ofsted. However, my preference would be that you contact your child's teacher or myself first to resolve any issues. The teachers have worked really quickly and hard on forming their remote learning offer. They have had to change the way they teach and interact with the children, adapt and amend plans and setup new systems in a very short space of time. Personally, I think they have done a fantastic job... but I am obviously biased. If this is not good enough then I'd like to hear about it first. We may get it right all of the time but we will always try our very best to teach the children and ensure they are safe. There may well be some teething issues especially with the move to Google classrooms, but I am sure these will be sorted swiftly.

On the other hand please do write to Ofsted if you feel that the staff are doing a great job with the remote learning. We have strived to do our very best. You can also email the teachers to their school email addresses. It is always good and provides a warm positive feeling when you receive thanks and praise. We all like that and it is good for our mental health and wellbeing, especially now.

I would like to thank you for your patience in allowing us to set up the remote learning offer and getting all the systems up and running. It is appreciated as are the many emails of support and thanks I have received over this week.

I will send letters out regularly to update everyone and post items on the website to keep in touch.

We hope that you and your families all stay safe and healthy and hope to see you all soon.

Best wishes



Mr Paul D Smith  
Head Teacher