

Mawgan-in-Pydar Primary School

Head of School: Miss D Carden

08.01.2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very Happy New Year to you all! What a way to start the New Year! I hope you and your families are well and remaining safe and healthy during this first week of the national lockdown. I also hope that you managed to enjoy the festive period, one that will certainly live long in the memory for many reasons!

Following the government's announcement on Monday, we have been improving our home learning provision for our children. Even if your child will not be attending school, **it is a government and school expectation for your child to access remote learning**. A huge thank you to everyone who has managed to secure supervision to ensure your child is at home, which is the safest place at the moment.

Our remote learning offer as you know is accessed via Google Classroom, a platform which we have previously used and children are aware of. Our remote learning will mirror provision for those within school at present. *Online Learning will be set at an appropriate level <u>for your child.</u>*

Our online learning will allow school staff to interact with your child, mark their learning, as well as set appropriate next steps and address any misconceptions. There is a team of staff working behind the scenes to facilitate this. They will be on hand to answer questions and provide support for you or your child/ren throughout the week. If you feel that you do need support then please contact the school directly or message through Google Classroom. A member of staff will respond as quickly as they can.

Learning will be set daily by 8.30am, with a clear set of instructions on how to complete activities. We appreciate that some of you may need to juggle your own work commitments, as well as several children's home learning and therefore, may choose to complete it at different times. However, there is an expectation for home learning to be completed by Friday 3:00pm as far as possible (although we know that sometimes learning has to be done at the weekend to accommodate your own working obligations).

Similarly, adults within school and working from home, have challenging circumstances, which may mean that adults respond to learning at times outside of the school day. Please bear this in mind should any notifications be active on your devices.

T: 01637 860491

E: <u>hello@mawgan-in-pydar.org.uk</u> W: <u>www.mawgan-in-pydar.org.uk</u> Mawgan-in-Pydar Primary School, St Mawgan, Newquay, Cornwall TR8 4EP



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In line with government directives, there will be a minimum of 3 hours learning a day for KS1 and 4 hours a day for KS2 online. We ask you please to focus first on reading, writing and maths and complete other subjects if you have time. Remember also that time spent cooking with your child, going for a walk and exploring, building things, playing a board game, sharing a book together etc are all classed as learning opportunities too and these are just as important.

Star of the Week, SCARF and TTRS certificates will be awarded weekly to pupils learning at home for their superb efforts throughout the week. Teachers have shared on Google Classroom instructions for uploading work, so please do look there and encourage your child/ren to upload their work or any photos of things they have been doing.

We have tried to contact every family within our school community this week and have been mostly successful. If you haven't received a phone call or email then we will try again next week. The purpose of this contact is to check your child/ren are able to access Google Classroom and provide any support you may require.

Staff from school may call you from within the school on the school's number (01637 860491) or from the Trust's central number: 01726 438613. Please add this number to your contacts so that you know it is the school trying to contact you.

We realise that limited devices in households can be a barrier to children accessing online learning, please see the link below which can help you to access Google Classroom from an Xbox or playstation.

https://www.google.com/amp/s/edtechawesomeness.com/2020/03/17/accessgoogle-classroom-with-your-phone-your-xbox-or-your-playstation/amp/

Next week we intend to set up a socially distanced pop-up library outside on the playground. You will be able to come with your child/ren and exchange/collect reading books. There will be a member of staff on duty who will be able to guide you/your child/ren to the appropriate reading stage books. We will let you know on Monday the days and time slots for this service. We aim to run this weekly.

Next week we will also be running our weekly Teams meetings for all pupils learning from home. Details and links for these meetings will be shared next week via Arbor and Google Classroom. Before your child/ren can take part in these meetings an acceptable IT usage form must be completed. This will be shared next week.

It is also worth mentioning that the government are rolling out an initiative to boost internet connection and/or provide families with extra data allowance. Aspire Trust are working to establish the need for this across all our 28 schools.



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I realise that this is once again a lot of information for you and some of you are only just starting to access Google Classroom. Please be reassured that our online learning team will support you as much as they can next week and throughout the duration of lockdown should you require it. They will interact frequently with your child/ren when they are logged on to it.

Take care, stay safe and please get in touch if you need our assistance. Our thoughts are with all our pupils and families during these uncertain times.

Miss D Carden

Head of School