

Dear Parents and Carers,

Having never written a letter like this to parents before I'm not quite sure what to say. It truly saddens me to think that I may never get the opportunity to teach the pupils in my class again, as I move into the Foundation Stage next academic year and that I never got to say goodbye to them all as one fabulous Class One group.

The past few weeks have been totally unprecedented and the pressure of trying to ensure your wonderful children stay healthy during this pandemic while in my supervision has been enormous. I feel a great sense of sadness that schools for the majority of pupils have been required to close, but I do think it is the right decision as social distancing, especially for young children is definitely impossible.

Having never been required to provide home learning for my pupils before, I am most definitely learning on the job! Although we teach highly differentiated programmes of work within the class, I am unable to sustain this via home learning and it would be a big ask of parents to deliver this at home. Therefore, I have put together what I hope is a comprehensive Year 1 and Year 2 approach to learning at home. Please feel free to adjust the levels for your child as strictly adhering to the Year 1 / Year 2 programmes may not be appropriate for their individual needs.

On Friday, your child should have received a physical home learning pack which contains some activities, the rest I will send to you in the nature of computer files sent via email. Where possible, I have downloaded each resource so you are not relying on an overloaded Internet facility. I have split the computer files into subjects; each file contains a letter to parents/carers '*Dear Parents/Carers*' which gives you information on each lesson and the resources which are required.

Where possible and relevant I have included links to websites/videos which can support both your own and your child's learning journey. However, if you are still struggling the Internet provides a whole host of information and support for parents, especially in light of the pandemic which we are currently facing. 'The School Run' <https://www.theschoolrun.com/> is also a great starting point for explaining things for parents.

To ensure a constant approach, most of the resources I have provided have been taken from Twinkl (a free home learning pack is available if required). Some Twinkl activities are differentiated (suitable for different ability levels). Twinkl use a star system denoted at the bottom of activity sheets. Generally speaking, the following levels apply:

- 1 star (*) - Year 1
- 2 star (**) - Year 1 Challenge
- 3 star (***) - Year 2

I have provided one plain exercise book for all of your child's work. Of course, you are free to complete work on larger pieces of paper or perhaps you may wish to create a folder for your child on the computer.

Mrs Clayton has already sent out an email to parents with a comprehensive list of websites which will help you when home schooling your child and I know there are many websites which are now offering free access to home learning packs for parents (Twinkl, Phonics Play).

Throughout this process I will be available to help you to the best of my abilities and resources. These are uncertain times and everyone's circumstances are changing fast so you may need to bear with me at times. The safety of our children and families is our priority right now, I hope you all stay safe and healthy and I look forward to the day when we can all get back to normal and we can welcome your wonderful children back into our fabulous school.

Wishing you all my best wishes.

Kind regards,

Ms Rund

General ideas for fun activities at home:

- Do some baking, develop maths skills by weighing and measuring, develop English skills by writing down the instructions and labelling diagrams.
- Play with Lego and make a home movie with the characters
- Write a play for the family to act out
- Make a den in the garden
- Wake up each morning for some exercise via You Tube channels
- Look for minibeasts in the garden