



DELVES LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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LEARN, ACHIEVE, INSPIRE

29th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We added this important message to our Facebook Page last weekend. It is important to remind all our families of the incredible job you are all doing every day during this pandemic.

We know that our parents and carers are feeling anxious about their child/children missing so much school. Families are finding it difficult to cope with very different challenges for you all at home. The Prime Minister announced this week, that schools will not reopen until 8th March at the earliest.

This is going to cause a lot of frustration for our families but we have to all remember we will get through this.

1. We know how tough it is, some of our team at DLPS also have small children at home themselves. It is so hard at home to keep pupils on task, especially when they feel fed up of the situation. Team DLPS understand that as lockdown goes on it continues to get harder and harder for everyone. We now know that the government are going to announce a plan to move the country out of lockdown later in February.
2. Please know that we have to offer your child a statutory amount of education each day but you can only do your best and will have lots of other things to manage. Your best is good enough! Over time anything you can do to help your child will help us. We continue to be amazed by how much you are sticking with it. We appreciate all the feedback and know that we will keep working to make our offer as accessible as we can. We know there are very tough days for some of our families, it's ok (Team DLPS have tough days too! 🙏)
3. Please try not to worry when you hear the 'falling behind' comments that will continue over the next few weeks. **Every child across the country is affected by this**, and we will do our absolute best for all our children when school reopens, like all schools will.
4. We have 10 school days until the half term holiday - let's try and take it one day at a time. We will all have good days and bad days. When your child is feeling down, don't be afraid to let school know - we are here to help. We can chat to your child over the phone, send a message and try our best to support you with the fantastic job you are doing at home.
5. For all the staff at DLPS it matters more that your child happy, settled and feels supported. Sometimes the key to doing well with school work is how happy and content your child is. This matters more than anything else. If there is little work completed one day, then it's about trying again the next day. As adults we all feel like this, and are more productive on some days than others.
6. Our children at DLPS are amazing (We are biased of course!). They are resilient and always adapt. Our job is to make sure we keep them interested in learning. This is why we encourage you all to have a look at Tapestry and Google Classrooms. You will hear and see your child's teacher and teaching assistant introducing lessons, reading to children and giving help and support every step of the way. When our children come back to school, we know they will settle back into our routines and do their absolute best.
7. Most of all (and this is the most important thing to remember) **THIS TIME WILL PASS**. When it does, we will get back on with the core business of giving your children the best education in school. But right now? We can all only do the best we can. We are in this together - but sometimes together doesn't mean being in the same place at school. 🙏🙏

Thank you to all our children and families for all that you are trying to do.

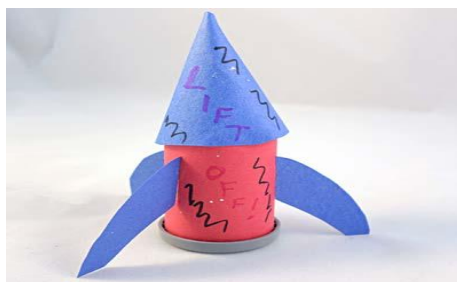
Screen Free Friday

Next Friday 4th February, we are planning a screen free day for all our children. It's time for our children to have hands on experiences and walk away from the screen.

So next Friday we are asking you to...

Take part in **Screen Free Friday** with a Science twist! Miss Jones, our Science leader loves space - it's one of her favourite things to teach, so she would like everyone to design and make their own **rocket!** Feel free to use any media you like to create your rocket and be as creative as you can! Siblings can team up or create their own and parents can join in too! There will also be prizes up for grabs! Look out on Tapestry and Google Classrooms this week as your child's class teacher will be posting further information. I can't wait to see your amazing ideas! 3, 2, 1... **BLAST OFF!** We can't wait to see your rockets and would love to share your pictures on our Facebook Page, Tapestry and Google Classroom.

For those families, who request paper packs, we will include details of our Screen Free Friday activity this week. Miss Jones and the team at DLPS cannot wait to see your **ROCKET** creations.



Star of the Week



This week we have hosted our first Star of the Week Assembly with our nominated children on a ZOOM call. This week our stars are:

Congratulations to	In Class	What have they been up to?
Zuzanna	Nursery	Amazing story telling of the "three little pigs"
Sam	1	Being a fantastic police officer reporting on the scene of the crime with his Pop Up Pirate!
Darcy	2	For being so enthusiastic with all of her home learning
John-James	3	Excellent maths work!
Harrison	4	For his amazing image of London Transport
Hayden	5	For his fantastic attitude towards his work
Leona	6	For working so hard at home doing all the activities and really working on her presentation.
Emilia	7	For logging in to Google Classrooms everyday and using all the available websites.
Alfie	8	For putting maximum effort into his home learning.
Jakub	9	For his fantastic work on Google Classrooms
Aiden	10	Very impressive work with his story. Aiden made it into a book and even included a blurb and barcode!
Natasha	11	Brilliant home learning and an amazing sketched picture of a dog
Marley	12	Amazing home learning!
James	13	Working hard whilst working from home and presenting his work neatly with care.
Ellie-Mai	14	Working very hard during the weekly French lesson. "Bravo"



January 2021 Birthdays

This month the following children have had a birthday!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU		
NAME	CLASS	HAPPY BIRTHDAY YOU ARE
Leo	Nursery	4y
Skander	Nursery	4y
Harvey	Nursery	4y
David	Class 1	5y
Michael	Class 3	6y
Emilia	Class 3	6y
Lilly-Rose	Class 4	6y
Miles	Class 4	6y
Brooke	Class 5	7y
Silver	Class 5	7y
Martin	Class 6	7y
Emmie	Class 6	7y
Charlie	Class 6	7y
Eva	Class 7	8y
Holly	Class 7	8y
Chayton	Class 8	8y
Jack	Class 9	9y
Keith	Class 9	9y
Grace	Class 10	9y
Tia	Class 10	9y
Max	Class 10	9y
Heidi	Class 10	9y
Charlie	Class 11	10y
Mason	Class 13	11y
Kieron	Class 13	11y
Jason	Class 14	11y
Liam	Class 14	11y
Jack	Class 14	11y

Children of Critical Workers/Vulnerable Pupils

Please can parents and carers make sure children have warm winter clothing with lots of layers. Children can bring indoor shoes and outdoor wellies/trainers. Children need warm coats during this cold weather. Classrooms have to remain ventilated, with some windows open, so please make sure children come to school in warm winter clothing.

Children who attend for some sessions, please remember to bring your work packs every day so that work can be completed in your exercise books. Thanks for your support with this.

Support for Families

Coronavirus wellbeing activities for families can be found here:

<https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/coronavirus-wellbeing-activity-ideas-for-families/> (Place2Be support for families to support wellbeing)

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/supporting-your-child-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/> (Young minds to support children and families in the pandemic)

<https://www.facebook.com/rollercoasterparentsupport> (Rollercoaster to support children's mental health)

Consett Foodbank - Food4U. If families are struggling because of the free school meal issues, please get in touch with school, because our local foodbank can help. They can help families with some lunch items. <https://www.durhamlocate.org.uk/Services/3578/Consett-Food-4U>

REMINDER - How can we help whilst your child is at home?

- We still have a small number of laptops, should you wish to loan one for your child's remote learning.
- We also have some data SIM cards. These free SIMs will help those families most in need to access their work from home. Here are some more details about the data SIM cards: <https://www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/pay-as-you-go-plans/schools-connected>
- We have also been able to secure a number of BT WIFI Vouchers. More information can be found here: <https://www.businessdirect.bt.com/sectors/education/free-wi-fi/>
- You can email your child's class teacher if you have any queries about their remote learning

If any of these resources can help, please get in touch with us at school. Telephone or email us at delveslaneprimary@durhamlearning.net

REMINDER - NEW Resource Packs

New packs of resources. We have put together a new pack of resources to support your child's learning on Tapestry and Google Classroom.

In every pack you will find:

- An exercise book
- Pencils, rulers and glue sticks
- Text or Work Books for Maths, Handwriting and Grammar
- The packs for our Nursery and Reception children have more goodies to engage them in their learning at home, like whiteboards, playdough and other resources.
- Please get in touch with us via telephone or email in to delveslaneprimary@durhamlearning.net to organise a time to safely collect your child's pack as soon as possible.

Please get in touch if you need help or support with your child's learning. We are thinking of you all.

Stay safe and take care.

B Woods

Mrs B Woods
Head Teacher