

FRIDAY UPDATE

Woodley C of E Primary School



Issue: 1

Friday 3rd April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers (and of course children)

How are you all? I hope you are getting on well with your home learning and have managed to find some routine to your days.

School is very strange. As you know, we have our key worker children with us, but it is very quiet and we are missing all of the children.

It is also very different for the staff. We are not used to working in this way and providing on-line learning on this scale is challenging. Thank you to Mr Blakely who is leading us with our on-line provision and to Mr Miles, who is doing a great job with Mr Blakely, supporting you on our tech-help line. Please note that our tech-help line will close **Monday 6th April** and will not re-open until **Monday 20th April**. This is to give the teachers time to set up new work for after Easter. During this time, please try to help each other. I am sure we have many parents out there who are very IT minded, so if you could help your friends and neighbours with on-line help, that would be great. Staff will be working but they also need to get a well-deserved break when they are not in school with key worker children. Staff are trying to plan on-line learning, teach the children of key workers and in many cases, also, look after and teach their own children. I know some of you have had problems with on-line learning and I ask you all to be patient. It will get better as we all become more experienced at working in this way.

Easter work will be coming home soon and I hope you will enjoy completing these activities with your children. It will be sent to you via **Parentmail** but will also be on the home learning tab under '[Routines and Phase Timetables](#).' Please also remember it is the Easter holidays and it is ok for you and your children to have a break.

Some parents have requested paper packs and I am sorry but we cannot encourage this. With social distancing and self-isolation, it would be irresponsible for me to be asking parents to come to school to collect packs. We will only do this for the small number of parents who we already know do not have internet access. I know it might be difficult, as some households may not have multiple devices, but can I suggest that you provide time slots for your children to use them.

There is a government expectation that you work with your child while they are not in school. It is not optional and my teachers will be contacting you if they have not seen that children have been completing work over the last two weeks. You need to set up a timetable for your children. Make it fun, use a combination of work then reward as an incentive. Please feel free to be inventive and use your imagination but please complete the work that is set. As time goes on, we will try to provide more feedback on set tasks. Use the Home Learning pages on our website. There is lots for you to do!

My wonderful staff have agreed to keep the school open over the Easter holidays for key worker children and I thank them for doing their bit to get us through this current crisis. The situation is not easy for any of us. Please try to support your children through this time. I look forward, in due course, to welcoming all the children back to school. Until then, we all need to pull together to do the best for our children at this unprecedented time.

Take care and I hope you all stay well.

Best wishes

Louisa Gurney, Head Teacher

