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Dear Parents and Carers

Here we are again! I hope that you and your families are well and that this really is one final, important push before things start to get better again... for good.

As I mentioned very briefly in my email last night, the school has been preparing for a scenario like this and we have online learning ready for your children to start tomorrow. This letter is to give an overview of the learning that all children will be receiving and to give a bit of an explanation as to why we have taken this approach. The learning that children will be doing online will be very similar to that which children in school will also be completing.

During the last school closures (between March and July), there was minimal guidance given to schools regarding the content and format of what home learning should look like. This has now changed and the government have provided more detailed guidance as to what is expected. As a school, we have been keen to get your views as parents and carers and are grateful for the feedback that we received at the end of last year (July '20) as to what you felt worked well and what could be improved regarding home learning.

As a result of the changes to government guidance and the parent and carer feedback we have received, we have made some adaptations to the home learning that will be provided. These changes will include:

- Improved feedback to support and motivate children
- Work equivalent to the length of core teaching that pupils would receive in school
- Opportunities for new learning (not revision of previous topics or units)
- A focus on interaction, assessment and feedback

### **When and where will work be uploaded?**

All learning (links, lessons, tasks) will be uploaded on to Google Classroom at 6pm each night. This is to give parents the opportunity to look over it, if they would like to, prior to children completing it the following day. Tomorrow's work will go live today at 6pm, however we do not expect children to be starting this until tomorrow.

For a 'How to' guide and for other general instructions about using Google Classrooms please click on the following link <https://www.freegrounds-jun.hants.sch.uk/google-classroom/> which will provide you with a range of helpful information, this will include:

- Logging in
- Viewing work set
- Uploading work your work

If you have any issues please email [webhelp@freegroundsjunior.co.uk](mailto:webhelp@freegroundsjunior.co.uk) and will aim to get back to you as quickly as possible.

### **What work will be set?**

Your children will be set around 4 pieces of work each day. This will always include maths, reading and writing as well as some form of foundation subject (art, history, geography, etc) or spelling. As previously mentioned, there is an expectation from the government that this work will be roughly equivalent in length to the core learning which children would normally receive in school. All work will follow a sequence of lessons which will build progressively from day to day.

The majority of work set will be taken from the Oaks National Academy platform – this has been recommended by the government and we have used some of these lessons in school to ensure that children are used to the format it takes. The teaching is very clear and well recorded.

**Do I need to print out the worksheets?**

No! We fully understand that not everyone has a printer at home and we don't expect you to do this. Please complete your work however works best for you. This could be by typing it up and uploading the file, or writing on a note pad or spare piece of paper and sending in a picture of what you have done – we really do not mind how you do this.

**When and how will my children get feedback and interaction with teachers?**

We will aim to provide feedback for work which is submitted via Google Classroom. It may be that there are different teachers commenting on the work that you hand in as staff will be working as teams to provide feedback across their year group.

Staff will provide feedback between 9am and 4:30pm. Depending on when the work is submitted, children may receive feedback that same day or one day later. Due to the amount of work which is being submitted, staff will only be able to provide feedback for tasks which are completed within 2 days of the work being set EG if a child submits work on Tuesday for Monday's learning then they will receive feedback for this. However if they submit work on Wednesday which was meant for Monday, we will not be able to provide feedback.

Staff will also be recording short (roughly 10 minute) feedback sessions as appropriate to go over some learning in more detail. This will also be uploaded on Google Classroom.

We will endeavour to make phone calls to check in with families where possible, however our significant focus and effort is going to be spent providing feedback on the work which children submit.

**Do I have to complete the work?**

We would strongly encourage you as much as possible to ensure that online learning is completed and we are keen to support you with this as much as we possibly can.

I appreciate that everyone is facing significant challenges at this time and the work set is not meant to add to these difficulties in any way. It is our intention to provide children with as high quality learning opportunities as we possibly can and support them to the best of our ability at this time.

I hope that this overview is helpful and provides you with some useful information. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, or just want to touch base with us.

Kindest regards



**Ryan O'Hearn**  
**Headteacher**