



# MANOR COURT Community Primary School

incorporating Manor Court Early Years Centre

A Member of Preston Primary Academy Trust

Head Teacher Mr L Talmage

Deputy Head Teacher Mr A Clode Assistant Head Teacher Mrs G Terry

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7<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

## Enhancements to remote learning at Manor Court Primary School

We hope that the first few days of remote learning has not been too stressful for you and your children.

We have once more approached remote learning predominantly through printed paper packs as we appreciate that not all families have more than one device to access online learning in their household. If you would like the school to print and deliver the next learning pack, **please email your child's year group email address by noon on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January**. Any requests after this time cannot be guaranteed to be processed and parents will need to print the remote learning packs themselves.

As you will appreciate, we are working hard to refine our home learning offer and are maintained in the knowledge that 98% of responses to our survey earlier in this school year were happy with the remote learning packs.

However, in this letter we are outlining enhancements to our remote learning offer. These additions will start from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January and are to be used alongside the printed work packs at the discretion of parents. It is not compulsory for children being educated remotely to participate in all or any of these online sessions.

**It is important to state that if your child is in Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6, they will not be able to access any of these online resources if we do not have your most up to date email address and you provide consent for your child to use Zoom. If we do not hear from you we will assume your child has permission to take part in Zoom based activities and that you understand the correct usage of such.** We can take your email address from your parent pay account and add to our distribution list but would prefer parents to email the year group email address as requested. **Please email the year group email address by midday tomorrow stating the name of your child.**

**If your child is in the Foundation Stage, we will send all online remote learning links via your Eylog account.**

### Contact with your child's teacher

Throughout this lockdown Eylog and the Year group email addresses will be checked at least twice each week day and once a day during the weekend. This will often be the easiest way to contact your child's teacher to ask for help with the work in the work packs or to request a telephone call. Please be patient and know that the correct person will contact you as soon as they possibly can.

### Zoom meetings with a year group teacher on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

We acknowledge from our telephone conversations with parents in the first lockdown that sometimes children may lack motivation to start their work each day for their parents. To provide an opportunity for a structured start to the day, one of the teachers from your child's year group will be online to speak to the children remotely about their learning at the following times. The times of these meetings have been set to enable the teachers to speak to the children at home and teach the children in school and will have to be limited to ten minutes.

A Zoom link will be sent via Eylog or the year group email address to each email address in the email distribution list during the prior evening. The times for each meeting are:

Foundation Stage	10:00 am
Year 1	09:50 am
Year 2	09:40 am
Year 3	09:30 am
Year 4	09:20 am
Year 5	09:10 am
Year 6	09:00 am



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### Online lesson on Thursday for children in all year groups.

In readiness for Thursday each week the teachers within the school will record a 15-to-20-minute input of a subject and set a task for children at home to complete on paper and any resources required will be emailed to parents before. These recorded lessons may not be English or Maths but could cover one of the other subjects that the children would be taught within their school week. Links to these videos will be uploaded to the website each Wednesday evening during this period of lockdown for parents to use at a time that is convenient for them. There will not be a Zoom meeting with a teacher on Thursday.

### Reverend Ann Assembly

Since our return to school in September we have been delighted to have Reverend Ann from St Mary's lead us in a Monday morning assembly on Zoom. This has been a unifying part of our week as we have not been able to come together in the school hall. Each Monday Reverend Ann has agreed to record an online assembly and share the link with us so that we can share this with you. We will once more distribute this through the year group email addresses or Eylog for children to participate in at a time that is suitable.

### Remote learning Sharing Assembly

From Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January we will hold a weekly KS1 and KS2 sharing assembly with those children who are not being taught in school. KS1 sharing assembly will start at 13:30 and KS2 sharing assembly will start at 14:00 each Friday during this lockdown and will be led by Mr Talmage and Mr Clode.

During these sharing assemblies, children will have opportunity to share with their peers their favourite part of the week and to share a photograph or video of them completing a remote task that we have set on Monday through our Twitter and Facebook account. If you would like your child to share something that they have done, please email it to the year group email and we will collate these so that they can be shared. Please note that we may not be able to share everything within the time that we have. During this sharing assembly we will also sing happy birthday to the children as has become a tradition during our weekly celebration assemblies.

Zoom links to these assemblies will once more be shared via Eylog and the year group email addresses.

### Additional information:

#### Phone calls to parents and children

Towards the end of the first National lockdown many parents were finding that there was less to say to their child's teacher. For this reason, during this lockdown, teachers will intentionally phone parents once a fortnight and those that we believe may find a more regular call beneficial will receive one from Miss Gregory, Mr Clode or Mr Talmage. If you are struggling for any reason during the lockdown and we can help, please do contact Miss Gregory, Mr Clode or Mr Talmage through the school email address and we will contact you as soon as we can.

#### Government initiative to help with online learning

The Government has this week announced a scheme to temporarily increase data allowances on mobile devices to support disadvantaged children who do not have broadband at home, cannot afford additional data for their devices, they're critically extremely vulnerable and are facing restrictions that prevent them from going to school.

If you would benefit from this Government initiative, please contact Miss Gregory our Early Intervention Officer for further information through her direct email address: [earlyintervention@manorourt.ppat365.org](mailto:earlyintervention@manorourt.ppat365.org) or by phoning the school office and asking for her to call you. Miss Gregory works Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday each week.

#### Arrangements for Free School Meal provision

We are currently working hard to plan for those children who are entitled to Free School Meals. We will share information with parents in the next few days when plans have been finalised. If you are struggling financially and may help from additional financial support please do apply for your child to receive free school meals through the following online link

[https://secure1.somerset.gov.uk/forms/PortalShowForm.asp?fm\\_formalias=freeschoolmeal](https://secure1.somerset.gov.uk/forms/PortalShowForm.asp?fm_formalias=freeschoolmeal)

We thank you for your ongoing support as we navigate through these early days of this National Lockdown.

With all kind regards.



Mr Luke Talmage  
Head Teacher



Mr Alan Clode  
Deputy Head/Inclusion Leader