

Dear Parents, Carers

Home Learning Update: April 2020

Update from Ms Stewart: Whole School Message

Welcome to the most unusual start to our Summer Term. Clearly this is not what any of us had planned, however, we have all rapidly adapted to our current situation. We've created a curriculum offer for the next few weeks that we hope is both meaningful and manageable for families. Some of you have found some brilliant routines and expectations that work for you, others of us are still finding our way: that's okay. What works will be different for every family and will vary for us on different days. Some days things will go to plan and you'll feel really productive, on other days it won't – that is completely normal and to be expected.

We appreciate that many families either have limited access to devices for online learning or are having to share. We also know that many of you are living, working and playing in small spaces at the moment which provide extra challenges.

Update from Sian: Early Years Children

Hopefully by now, class teachers have contacted you to share how much we are missing you all and check that you are all doing well. **Teachers will be making a second round of calls in the next couple of weeks** to check in again, say hello to the children and offer support, in any which way we can.

In the meantime, we have created a second learning pack to keep little minds curious. We know that recreating the school environment is really tricky so the ideas offered in the learning packs should be used as a guide. Some of the best learning can be done by talking through everyday experiences (thinking aloud) and asking open questions. Nevertheless, we hope that this learning pack will give you an opportunity to learn together, building on our '**learning, together and pride**' values. We would love to see what you're up to so send in photos to <u>admin@woolmore.towerhamlets.sch.uk</u> if you're happy for these to be added to our Twitter!

It's particularly worth noting that **we have set up each child with an Oxford Owls log in and password**. Through this, you will be able to access a huge range of books online (see our 'how to access' handout). Books available to three years olds may have very few words or none at all. The idea is that you and your children can talk through the story using the pictures to sequence events. If you have any questions, call the office or ask your child's class teacher for help when we call again in the next couple of weeks.

Signposting: Home Learning Advice

In addition to our learning pack, it would be worth signposting our parents to a couple of articles that have been published to help parents and carers deliver home learning.

On Sunday, the government released advice for parents and carers of children aged 2 – 4 years old, offering ways to help children learn at home during the coronavirus.

You can help your child to learn through the little things you do with them, for example:

- Everyday conversations
- Make-believe play
- Games with numbers or letters
- Reading together
- Involving them in the things you are doing, such as household chores, and talking with them about it

The article also offers helpful advice about:

- Keeping a routine
- Keeping active
- Television and using digital devices
- Socialising while social distancing

For the full article visit: <u>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-children-aged-2-to-4-to-learn-at-home-during-coronavirus-covid-19</u>

The BBC also offer helpful advice in this article: <u>https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-52314856</u>

While your children are still at home, help us with the basics and keeping children physically and emotionally well. Once back in school, our teachers will do a great job of closing the more formal learning gaps and giving children what they need most.

Meanwhile, we look forward to working with you over the next few weeks and wish you a happy and healthy time at home.

Remember, our office is also open – we are here to help.