



We are growing
our learning

St John's Green Primary School

Learn to Live, Live to Learn

Volume 47, Issue 2

Newsletter Date:
Friday 15th January 2021

We ♥
Maths

We are all
writers ...



Newsletter

Thank You	1
New	1
Book Borrow at AF	1
Do's and Don'ts	1
School Dinner Arrears	1
Awards	1



School Number: 01206 762884 e-mail: admin@st-johnsgreen.essex.sch.uk

School Mobile Number: 07806940013 Website: st-johns-green.eschools.co.uk

Follow us on Twitter: @SJG_News School Uniform: www.smartyantsschoolwear.com

Thank You

A huge thank you to all our parents who are supporting their children's learning at home. It has been so heartening for all the staff working on-line to see the children and their engagement with their on-line learning.

As we become even more proficient in the use of 'Microsoft Teams', we will continue to up our game as it were, and continue to do everything we can, to make the children's on-line experience as positive as we can.

I fully appreciate the juggling act that many parents are facing, with having to maintain their own jobs and support the children and all I can say is thank you for your efforts and support of your children. I know it's not easy.

New!

A couple of new additions to the Home Learning section of the web-site

1. In the first column you will now find uploads of work for the week ahead. This is not everything and focuses mainly on Maths and English. This is really a stop gap, so parents have somewhere to go for relevant weekly resources, should you have a Microsoft Teams problem and can't access the on-line learning. These resources will be deleted at the end of each week and refreshed with the following weeks work.

2. At the very bottom of the Home Learning page, you will now find some help guides for parents. These include the do's and don'ts for Microsoft Teams, how to use the xbox/playstation and a 'How to Upload Work' guide in Microsoft Teams for parents/children.

Exercise Books

Please don't forget that there is an exercise book for every child in the entrance lobby at AF and T to enable them to have somewhere to complete their on-line work. Parents just need to pop in and collect one.

Awards

Year 6 (Class Bubble) - Nancy (MLM)
Year 6 (Mrs Wall) - Amy (MM)
Year 6 (Mrs Smith) - Thomas (MLM)
Year 5 (Class Bubble) - Aaliya & Roxy (CC)
Year 5 (Miss Kerr) - Scarlett and Bella (MM)
Year 5 (Miss Stockwell) - Paloma (MLM)
Year 4 (Class Bubble) - Mia (RREX)
Year 4 (Mrs Hancock) - Drew (RREX)
Year 4 (Miss Mitchell) - Louie (MM)
Year 3 (Class Bubble) - Samuel (MLM)
Year 3 (Mrs O'Shea) - Albert (RREX)
Year 3 (Miss Aston) - Charlie (RREX)
Year 2 (Class Bubble) - Ellis (RROX)
Year 2 (Miss Pickard) - Layla (MM)
Year 2 (Mrs Kibbler) - Aaryan (MM)
Year 1 (Class Bubble) - Nina (RROX)
Year 1 (Mrs Scotting) - Charlotte & Grace (MLM)
Year 1 (Mrs Minshall) - Emilee
EYFS (Class Bubble) - Roman (RREX)
EYFS (Miss Cook) - Whole Class (RREX)
HUB - Austin (RROX)

COVID-19 Update

Extra Financial Help From Us

If you're claiming housing benefit or the housing element of universal credit and it's not enough to pay your rent, you may be able to get extra financial help from us.

The Discretionary Housing Payment is not a loan, so you do not need to repay the money.

For more info, [click here](https://www.colchester.gov.uk/info/c/bc-article/2catid=housing-benefit-info&id=KA-01419) or ring our Welfare Benefit Specialists on 01206 505855

<https://www.colchester.gov.uk/info/c/bc-article/2catid=housing-benefit-info&id=KA-01419>

School Dinner Arrears

There are a few arrears for school meals taken up until Friday 18th December (end of term). We would be grateful if parents could pay for any meal arrears on SimsPay during lockdown. The School Office will be emailing out separately to parents to let them know the specific amounts to pay.

Parents who are continuing to book school meals for their children who are attending school at the present time do need to continue to pay for meals through the normal school meal account on Sims Pay.

"Practice isn't the thing you do once you're good. It's the thing you do that makes you good." - Malcolm Gladwell

YOUR CHILD WILL FOLLOW YOUR EXAMPLE, NOT YOUR ADVICE.

Book Borrow @ AF

Our 'Book Borrow' trolley is still at AF in the entrance lobby. If you would like to come and borrow some books, then please pop in to the foyer at AF and select the books you want to borrow. You can then return them on your next visit.

Please remember to wear a face mask when coming onto the school site.

Likewise, if you have a few books lying around at home that you no longer feel you need, please drop them in to the entrance lobby at the Abbey Field site and we will find them a home so that other children/families can enjoy them.

Microsoft Teams—A few Do's and some definite Don'ts for Parents and Children...

Do—Persevere when a link doesn't work. The chances are it's not the link, it's just the connection at that time. As with any website, be patient and refresh the link. E-mailing us after you've tried once because a link doesn't work that one time is a little bit reactionary.

Do—Remember these are computers. Things will and do go wrong all the time. When they're working perfectly it's brilliant, but when they're not, don't over think it. We totally lost Mrs Hancock for a day this week and Mrs Wall just disappeared half way through her teaching. Children will still be able to access the files in their folder and the teachers will re-appear when they've solved their technical issues.

Do—If possible, reduce background noise. Washing machines, the TV, etc, can all be picked up and this does create a cacophony of sound. There are some huge challenges here, especially when children are in the same room—so if you can spread them out around your house—please do.

Do—Trust your children. The on-line lessons are for them as children, not you as parents. Resist the temptation to hover in the background and let them make their own mistakes. Even our youngest children don't need their parents standing over them when the teacher is teaching.

Don't—Start the lesson before the teacher does. This is really irritating for everyone. Be patient and wait until the message comes up that tells you the teacher has started.

Do—If you have a technical problem, e-mail support@stjohnsgreen.org.uk

Don't—If you have a class based concern e-mail the support e-mail address this is for technical problems such as logging on.

Do—If you have a class based concern e-mail admin@st-johnsgreen.essex.sch.uk in exactly the same way as you would if the children were in the school building. This will then be forwarded to the class teachers.

Don't—Please as parents use the chat function to contact the teacher. This is not what the chat function is for.

Don't—As parents overthink everything. The lessons are being recorded and are readily available, so if you want to go out for a walk or take a break then do. As long as your children are accessing the on-line learning for the majority of the time and doing their best to keep up with everything, not logging in at exactly the right time is not a disaster.

Don't—Reply to the teachers comments in the 'Chat' function unless you're asked to. Otherwise the teachers comment gets lost in a plethora of emoji's.

Do—Remember, everyone is still learning about Microsoft Teams including us. It will continue to get better, the more we use it and the more familiar we become with it.

Do—Remember all work to be uploaded to the 'assignments' folder only.

Easy!

And Finally,

Mrs Wall just disappeared from her 'Live' teaching the other day when her laptop decided to just turn itself off but she was still recording (no idea how that works). Anyway, half way through the lesson Mrs Wall just disappeared. What happens next is brilliant. One child starts asking the others maths questions, others try and invite Mrs Wall back. Others are trying to work out where she's gone 'Well, what shall we do?' 'Is she ok?' 'Maybe she's gone to feed her dog?' 'She only has a cat!' 'She wouldn't leave without just telling us!' To the children's credit, they all stayed on until Mrs Wall reappeared—apparently one child then asked 'if she'd just been arrested?!' Obviously she hadn't—only in the mind of a child.

Have a good Weekend

Simon Billings