



BUCKSTONES

COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Monday 25th. January 2021

Dear Parents,

As you are aware, all schools in England are now only open to children of Critical Workers or to those pupils deemed to be Vulnerable. We would much rather all of our children were in school but we fully respect the rules of the lockdown and how it is supporting our country's response to tackling COVID 19.

The Government guidance for Critical Workers has recently been updated and states:

Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school if required, but parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can.

In order to keep the rate of COVID transmission as low as possible we do need to try to keep the numbers of children in school as low as possible. We understand that you may be eligible for a place, but if your child can stay at home then we are asking you to keep them there. We are asking parents to exhaust all other options before contacting school and if either parent is working from home, then please keep your child at home with you if at all possible. Due to current numbers, and in the spirit of the lockdown and reducing transmission, any new places will be considered for 'emergency and safeguarding reasons' or where there is an 'overwhelming and compelling reason' to further increase the numbers in school.

Thank you for your support in this.

HOME LEARNING



I want to thank all parents for your amazing support as we rolled out our remote learning through the school website. We understand that this has been challenging for some families, having to set up virtual learning environments in their own homes. We have been so very grateful for the support that you have offered your children in helping them to access their learning this way.



Delamere Avenue, Shaw, Oldham OL2 8HN
Tel 0161 770 5850 Fax 0161 770 5851
Before and After School Club 0161 770 5849
Headteacher: Miss S.E. Healey B.Ed. (Hons) M.Ed.
OLDHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH





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Last week we sent a link to all parents in Years 1 to 6 so you could activate your Tapestry account, can I please ask you to do this as this is a more straightforward way for the teachers to receive the children's work and respond to it and any queries you may have.

As we move into the fourth week of lockdown there has been lots of wonderful work going onto the Tapestry apps - which we have really enjoyed reading and responding to. A huge thankyou to the children for the exceptional way in which they have completed the remote learning and returned this promptly to their teachers - please keep this amazing effort up. We are so proud of you all!

The twice weekly zoom meetings will continue as they give children an opportunity to connect with their class teacher and peers even though they may be at home. It is also a great way to ask the teachers any questions about the home learning that has been set. There has been a positive uptake to these sessions and the children have engaged and participated extremely well. Please try to attend at least one zoom meeting each week.

All the teachers and support staff in school are really enjoying seeing how the children are progressing through the work that the children are submitting. Teachers will continue to keep in touch through the Tapestry offering feedback and support. But as always please email or ring school if you need any further support.

LEARNING AT SCHOOL

The children attending school are also facing a very different experience than what normally happens in school. They are all following the learning that has been set on the website and they are restricted to their class bubbles. They too are missing their friends and look forward to the weekly zooms when they can catch up and share what



they have been doing.

We are also very proud of the children in school and how well they have adapted.



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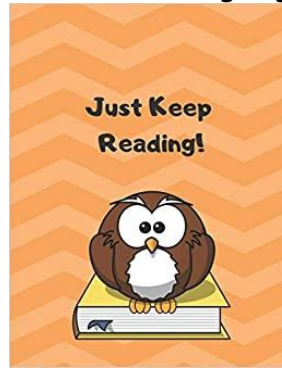


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READING

It's really important that your child continues reading regularly, not only to improve



their understanding but also for fun!

There are now a wide range of eBooks that class teachers are promoting on Oxford Owls.

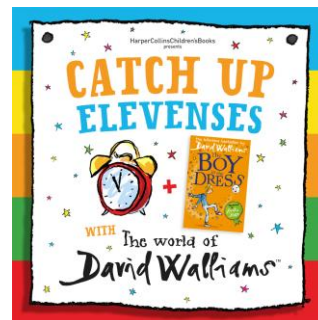
Why choose eBooks?

- Digital reading has been shown to help encourage young people in reading, particularly boys.
- eBooks can be read on any device, from PCs to iPads, Kindles and iPod Touches.

Other resources:

In addition there are sites where you can listen to stories from well-known authors.

David Walliams is currently reading one of his novels and releases the next chapter at



11am each week day with catch up time at weekends.

Click here <https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevenses-news/> to take you to the site and start listening!



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FRUIT

We are pleased to say the Government Fruit Scheme has started again and we have received a donation from Asda so the children don't need to bring a piece of fruit from home anymore.

SNOW

During the winter period if it is safe to do so the children will spend some time outside playing in the snow. This means the children need wellingtons, boots or sturdy shoes plus their trainers and spare socks for inside. Also ensure your child is well wrapped up with thick coat, hat, gloves and scarves. It can get very cold on our playgrounds.

IF YOUR CHILD OR SOMEONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD TESTS POSITIVE COVID 19

If your child is attending school or if they are at home and you are notified of a positive result for COVID-19 please email info@buckstones.oldham.sch.uk

Contact tracing, for children not attending school, will be completed by NHS Test and Trace.

LOOKING AHEAD TO VACCINATIONS

The Local Authority have asked schools to share the following leaflet regarding vaccinations as an easy read leaflet:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/951000/PHE_11843_Covid-19_Easy-read_leaflet.pdf

Please contact your child's individual class teacher or the school office if there is any help or support you need.

Kind regards,
Sarah Healey



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