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Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer(s),

Particularly in light of the disrupted last 18 months, we wanted to clarify arrangements regarding the way that we use home learning here at Sandgate, and also arrangements regarding remote learning.

## **Home Learning:**

Home learning allows children to practise key elements of the curriculum at home, further embedding important concepts but also allowing you to learn alongside your child. We know that parental engagement with reading, for example, closely correlates with reading attainment.

Tasks are primarily set via Google Classroom using the below format, with hand-ins of completed learning also submitted via this platform through a photo or typed answer as appropriate. One reason we are continuing to use Google Classroom in this way is to ensure children stay familiar with the platform in case of the need for remote learning. Following feedback from parents, home learning will be set on a **Wednesday** and due by the following **Tuesday**. This allows one week for the completion of any tasks, encompassing the weekend but trying to avoid a 'Sunday night scramble'. Home learning will be set using the following format:

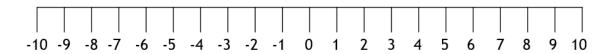
| Reading  | Spelling  | Maths  |
|--|---|--|
| Read for around 30 minutes or more, at least 5 times per week. Wherever possible, do this with an adult and most of the time, read a book in your colour band or Accelerated Reader reading range. Make a note in your Reading Record. | Practise the pattern you have been learning in class this week: The prefix 'in-', which can mean both 'not' and 'in'/'into.' Complete the task set via Google Classroom and take a picture to upload to the Google Classroom hand in. | Practise counting backwards through 0 to include negative numbers: - the activity uploaded to Google Classroom Timestable Rockstars (Y3-6 only) - Mathletics (Y5-6 only) |
| <b>Set</b> : Wednesday *th Septe   | mber <b>Due</b> : Tuesday   | *th September  |

| Why reading?   | Why spelling?  | Why maths?   |
|--|--|--|
| We know from both our own and other published research that positive reading behaviours can be closely linked to success in maths, writing, GCSE results, even employability as an adult! We also know that one of biggest impacts on reading attainment is plenty of reading! | Learning to spell is complex (and closely linked to reading!). Frequent practising of specific patterns helps us overcome tricky or common spelling errors. The activities children complete at home sit closely alongside the patterns taught in class each week. | We know that regular practise of arithmetic is so important, and that's why we start every maths lesson with an arithmetic session. Continuing to work on this at home helps to speed up fluency and accuracy of recall. |

## **Example Spelling task:**

| Cover your spellings up. Can you add in the missing letters from each word? |                   |  |
|---|-------------------|--|
| in_ura_le   | in_or_ect         |  |
| insecure  | inabity           |  |
| inelant   | indefite          |  |
| in tive   | inadeate          |  |
| ine_ible  | _ n v _ s _ b l e |  |

## **Example Maths task:**



$$4 - 6 =$$

$$_{c}$$
 8 - 10 =

h. 
$$3 - 4 =$$

d. 
$$3 - 5 =$$
 h.  $3 - 4 =$  l.  $8 - 23 =$ 

## **Remote Learning:**

We of course hope that the need for remote learning will lessen over the coming months. However, in the event of your child needing to isolate following a confirmed case of covid, they will be able to access each day's learning via Google Classroom, and should do so assuming they are feeling well enough.

It is important to note that unless the entire class has gone into a lockdown situation, remote learning will not be 'live' lessons like children experienced during previous national lockdowns, because teachers are of course going to be teaching the rest of the class in school. Remote learning will mirror what children would be doing in school as closely as is possible, but of course the experience will not be the same as when facilitated by the class teacher. It is likely to be in the format of a section of a PowerPoint or other resource with some short instructions for any tasks the children should be doing. Children can take photos and hand in their learning via Google Classroom, when completed, or type the task if relevant.

The class teacher or school Family Liaison Officer will aim to phone to check in with your child at least once per week both for wellbeing purposes and to talk to them about any learning that they have been able to do. This is also a useful time to discuss any aspects of the remote learning they were unsure about, or Google Classroom can be used to contact the teacher – of course, teachers will be teaching throughout the school day so do bear this in mind.

Again, remote learning simply cannot replicate the quality of learning that goes on in the classroom so, on return to school, the class teacher will work closely with any child who has been accessing remote learning to ensure potential gaps or misconceptions have been clearly identified and acted upon.

If you wish to discuss any aspects of either home or remote learning, please do get in touch with either a member of the school leadership team or your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Evans

Deputy Headteacher