

# Newsletter

28<sup>th</sup> April 2020

## Summer term

Our summer term started last week with plenty of homeschool learning on our website (see children and then classes). Several parents have asked when it is likely that the school will reopen and what that might look like. These are questions that I cannot currently answer. Government guidance remains that schools will reopen when it is considered safe to do so. We will of course update you with any new guidance as and we are able to do so.

In the mean time I remain very proud of my staff, many of whom volunteered to work over the Easter holiday, and all of whom are working hard every week to ensure that the work they are providing has been carefully designed to be the best it can be to support the children's learning during these challenging times.

The school remains open for those children who need it, especially children of key workers.

Thank you for your ongoing support in teaching the children at home. If you are able to complete the child's "must do's" this is especially important, and will ensure that there are fewer gaps to close when we return to school. Please also make use of the educational links that you have been directed to. Ruth Minskin's site, for example, provides very useful guidance on how to teach early writing alongside phonics. Staff also love to hear about the work the children have been doing on the nine additional weekly tasks, as well as the extra activities that the children have been getting up to.

Most of the work that has been set can be completed in the exercise books that were sent home and there should be minimal printing required. If you do need work printed and are unable to do so at home, please contact the class teacher and they will arrange for work to be printed that can then be collected from school. Spare paper/books etc. can also be provided.

With the increased use of technology please ensure that your children have accessed the Thinkyouknow link provided in the home learning gird. There is also lots of useful advice for parents on this site.

We recognise home learning comes with many challenges. I, for one, have never been more grateful for that we live in such a lovely part of the country with access to gardens and beautiful open spaces! Your relationships with your children and your whole family's mental wellbeing remain the most important thing; whilst the children may not remember everything that have learnt during this time, they will remember how they felt. Please do get in touch if you are finding things challenging.

Below are some recommended resources to support with parenting at home:

7 top tips to support reading at home:

[https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19 Resources/Resources for schools/7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home.pdf](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19%20Resources/Resources%20for%20schools/7%20Top%20Tips%20to%20Support%20Reading%20at%20Home.pdf)

Helping Home Learning: Read with TRUST

[https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19 Resources/Resources for schools/Read with TRUST infographic.pdf](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19%20Resources/Resources%20for%20schools/Read%20with%20TRUST%20infographic.pdf)

Helping Home Learning: Talk with TRUST:

[https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19 Resources/Resources for schools/Talk with TRUST infographic.pdf](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19%20Resources/Resources%20for%20schools/Talk%20with%20TRUST%20infographic.pdf)

Supporting home learning routines: Planning the day:

[https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19 Resources/Resources for parents/Supporting home learning routines - Planning the day.pdf](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Publications/Covid-19%20Resources/Resources%20for%20parents/Supporting%20home%20learning%20routines%20-%20Planning%20the%20day.pdf)

## School Lunches

We are now providing a sandwich only option to be collected from the school's bike shed. If your family circumstances have changed and you are now eligible for additional benefits, please make sure that you claim for them. You may also be entitled to additional benefits from school. Normally, this would be free school meals. However, during the current circumstances we are providing online shopping vouchers that can be used at all major supermarkets. Please see the document in the newsletter section of the website entitled Pupil Premium.

## The Long Table Project



Gloucester Diocese have launched the Long Table project .

<https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Flyer-to-go-out-to-individuals.pdf>

Seven take away meals can be orderd through ths initiative for £25 and delivery to your door is free of charge

**If cost is a barrier for you then the project provides meals that have been prepaid which can be given to you free of charge.** There is also the option to make a donation to pay for meals for those who are struggling financially.

Contact:

01594 715785

[forest@thelongtableonline.com](mailto:forest@thelongtableonline.com)

Rev Joe can also provide more information: [joeknight@outlook.com](mailto:joeknight@outlook.com)

## Home learning for Adults

If learning at home with your children has inspired you, then you may be interested in doing some online learning for yourself:

<https://theskillstoolkit.campaign.gov.uk/> provides free, high-quality digital and numeracy courses to help people build up their skills, progress in work and boost their job prospects and confidence whilst at home.

Courses on offer cover a range of levels, from everyday maths and the use of email and social media at work to more advanced training. All courses are available online and are flexible so that people can work through them at their own pace.

The Open University are also providing free courses on a wide range of topics:

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses>

As are Future learning:

<https://www.futurelearn.com/>

This week's value - Perseverance