

The Topsham School

A love of learning and commitment to the success of every child at the heart of all we do



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Dear families,

Well done to EVERYONE on completing the first week of official remote learning!

We know it has been a big adjustment for every and we all at school appreciate the whole family effort.

As a key stage, we are in contact with each other regularly and have found a couple of things crop up that children or families may not be sure of when working with Google Classroom. We ourselves are still learning!

- Please upload each subject separately in the folder they were set. So, if you are handing in maths, please do this in the maths folder where it was set.
- Please always click 'submit', 'turn in' or 'mark as done'. Even when an activity does not require anything to be handed in (read for 30 minutes, for example), because we as teachers still need to know it has been completed.
- We are adjusting how we 'teach' at the moment, this includes setting learning for a shorter amount of time. If an activity is taking longer than the recommended time, and it is causing stress or upset, then please stop after the recommended time. Reading 30 mins, Maths 30mins, Writing 30-45mins, Spelling 20mins, Topic 3 hours over the week.
- Please persevere with finding out how to upload docs and photos on Goggle Classroom, rather than emailing. We receive many emails each day and sometimes a piece of work can get lost within these. However, I know lots of parents have to email them, so if this is the case, please do.
- Writing: The children will be set many different writing tasks. When a long piece of writing is set (a paragraph or more) we will be marking these in different ways. Once a week, a long piece of writing will be 'deep marked'. This means teachers will provide comments and next steps, and it will be sent back to the child for editing. This then needs to be resubmitted, with the edits. This will be once a week only. Other pieces of long writing may not be marked so deeply. It will be made clear in the instruction if the piece is one to be deep marked.
- Mrs Pipe asked in a previous communication for parents to let us know if they cannot access the online materials. If this is the case, please let your teacher know so we can arrange alternatives.

- There will be some weeks that your class teacher will be in school each day, teaching/ supporting children from 8.30am- 5.30pm. On these weeks, it is not possible for your teacher to be able to communicate with you or your children in the same way. Please do not email or send a Google Classroom message, unless it is not expected to be answered quickly. The learning that will be set, will be less and simple, to avoid confusion. Teachers will check Google Classroom and emails, but it will not be regularly.

Again, THANK YOU for all of your support, hard work and patience at this time. We have really loved seeing all the work that has been coming in.

If you have any further questions, please just ask.

Maria White