



17/4/2020

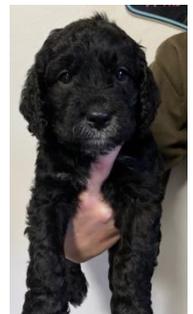
Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all are staying safe and enjoying time as a family. We now know that we will continue in lockdown for another 3 weeks and I anticipate - but don't know – that schools will reopen after the May half term. As a staff were working on the assumption that we would not be open in full for three more weeks. The school building is manned from Monday to Friday 8am to 3.30pm during the term so we are available by phone if you need us – please ring – we enjoy talking to you. We are trying to call families at least once a fortnight because we miss you all and genuinely care that you are all well and safe.

Home learning using Google classroom is set to begin on Monday. We have learnt from other schools that flexibility is the best approach so tasks will be set on a Sunday night for some – Monday morning for others for the week. We will be sending out new topic choice menus as we start the topics that we would have begun after Easter. All classes have been sent personal log in details so please make sure that you know your child's before Monday morning. Staff are available via the class email addresses if there are still problems.



Please have a look in the storytelling room found on google classroom– staff and their families are busy recording stories for you so that you can hear and see familiar people. Look out for family antics and also a new arrival coming soon in the Leach household! Picture books are suitable for all – some of the longer books are more suitable for KS2. The Machine Gunners by Robert Westall is definitely a Year 5&6 text.



Buzz the new arrival

### Class contact details

Oak - [oak.3260@st-blaise.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:oak.3260@st-blaise.oxon.sch.uk)

Poplar – [poplar.3260@st-blaise.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:poplar.3260@st-blaise.oxon.sch.uk)

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One of the areas that all staff feel is something of vital importance and something that needs lots of practice is - telling the time. Mrs Green has developed a stage plan showing the areas of time that children need to understand



from Reception up to Y6. Please have a look at this because a lot of time teaching is practise. We hope that you will find where your children are on the grid and then work on making sure that the stage is secure before moving into the next stage of learning. Although there is a lot of current discussion about the relevance of analogue time (clocks with hands) we still think it is important that children understand both analogue and digital time.



We say a virtual hello to Mrs Waldman who begins in Willow class on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April. Mrs Waldman is working with staff and has been prepared by Mr Lyne to begin her new role in school. We are delighted that she is joining us.

## Family competitions

The winner of the rocket competition was Cara from Poplar class – congratulations Cara – a prize is in the post. Please support our competitions which are designed to be fun and bring families together.

### **This weeks competition - Write a family poem**

Work as a family to write a poem about your family or any other subject that you like. Entries will be published on the website and a winner will be announced after the closing date – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April.



During this time please can you help us by teaching children to tie their laces and use a knife and fork. Family time would be time well spent teaching life skills to the children.



Please take care and keep in touch.

Thinking of you all,

Ruth Leach and the staff of St Blaise

