



NEWSLETTER

10

29th January 2021

Tel: 01484 714964

www.st-andrews-inf.calderdale.sch.uk

We know that these are stressful times and that home learning is hard. We know that many of you are juggling home learning with your children alongside your own work and we appreciate how challenging this is. **We thank all of you for doing such a great job.** Remember that **we are here to help you.** The teachers are posting videos to teach the children; if you have any questions, please email the teachers. There is no such thing as a silly question. We will continue to make our weekly phone calls but if you are struggling with something please don't wait, make contact with us via the class email or telephone.

Government guidelines are that children should be engaging in:

- 4 hours each day - Years 3, 4, 5 and 6
 - 3 hours each day - Years 1 and 2
 - Less than 3 hours each day - Reception (we recommend 2 to 3 hours – short activities and exploratory learning).
- You will find information about a suggested daily timetable at the bottom of this newsletter.

Remember, some of this time may be taken up with your daily exercise, a walk outdoors in nature. **Be kind to yourself, do what you can.** Continue talking to staff when they ring you, or ring school to speak to the learning mentor, if you need additional support.

Encourage your child to join their teacher and friends in the weekly zoom meetings.

Here are some links to useful well-being and home learning activities that may help you:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/calm-zone/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/.../seven-techniques-for-helping>

<https://www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk/.../Creating>

Lastly, our on-site learning 'bubbles' are now full in all year groups. We have no more spaces to accommodate further pupils.

Mrs K Smith, Headteacher

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 9th February is Safer Internet Day! Look out for information, for both children and parents, about staying safe online on Purple Mash. Class teachers will be setting fun activities based around E-Safety for the children next week!



Half-Term

Remember, school closes for half-term on **Friday 12th February** and re-opens for children on **Tuesday 23rd February**. Monday 22nd February is a **staff training day**.

Babysitting Club

Due to the current restrictions, the Babysitting Club is now cancelled for this academic year.

Pupil Progress Appointments

The pupil progress phonecalls will take place on Wednesday 3rd February from 8:30am – 5:00pm. You will have received a text stating your allotted hour slot. The calls will be a maximum of 7 minutes each – if you feel after this length of time you still have things to discuss with the teacher, please arrange an additional phonecall with them. Please remember, if you miss the call, **don't** try to call back as the phone lines will be extremely busy this day. Please also be aware that the call may come from a withheld or anonymous number.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and look forward to talking to you. Please post home learning work as normal on Purple Mash and via email but be mindful that it may be the following day before feedback can be given.



REMINDERS

- If anyone in your household starts displaying symptoms, please do not send your child to school.
- Please can we remind adults to stay 2m apart when dropping off and collecting children. Also please remember the one-way system around the school grounds
- We ask that only 1 adult enters the school grounds to drop off / collect each child.
- Isolation has been reduced from 14 days to 10 days.
- Please stick to bubble start and finish times to avoid bubble cross over.
- Please keep children with you and do not allow them to run around to avoid accidents.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Purple Mash

As you are aware, we are using Purple Mash as our home learning platform. The paper-based work packs you have collected from the school office link to the work on Purple Mash. Teachers post lessons daily on Purple Mash; lessons include videos from the teacher which explain the tasks and teach the input of the lesson. Please encourage your child to watch the videos before completing the tasks set. We ask that your child only completes the work set for the day and doesn't work ahead. Should you need any more work set from the teacher, please get in touch and we will happily provide more.

Teachers lead a weekly celebration within the year groups. Please log onto Purple Mash for the details including the Zoom links. The links will also be sent via email from the year group email address. We ask that students follow these rules during our Zoom sessions:

- Children are expected to behave as they would in school.
- The children must join the meeting on time and be muted as soon as they enter.
- Children must not take themselves off mute unless the teacher tells them to.
- Children must be fully dressed and not in their bedroom.
- An adult must be in the room with them or in the next room with the door open so they can hear what is going on.
- Children are to raise their hand if they wish to speak or ask a question and wait for the teacher's instruction.
- Children must have their name as their computer ID so we can see who is joining the meeting.

Any inappropriate behaviour will result in the meeting being suspended for **all** pupils. We understand that pupils want to see their friends and hope that this will provide an opportunity for pupils to celebrate the week's achievements. If you are having difficulty accessing Purple Mash, please get in touch with school and we will talk you through how to use it. Alternatively, you can visit the school website where you will find a page on Purple Mash under the Home Learning section. Feedback is given to students on their submitted work throughout the day. Don't forget you can always contact your child's year group teachers via email and send work as an e-mail attachment or photograph. Regular phone calls home will continue so please let us know if you need any more support. Please find the email addresses below:

Reception: reception@st-andrews-inf.calderdale.sch.uk

Year 1: year1@st-andrews-inf.calderdale.sch.uk

Year 2: year2@st-andrews-inf.calderdale.sch.uk

Reception Daily Timetable

In the link below, you will find an optional timetable to follow if your child is in Reception. This is not compulsory but you and your child may find it a helpful way to structure your day!

<https://st-andrews-inf.calderdale.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/EYFS-Routine-of-the-day.pdf>