



Stoke by Nayland C of E Primary School and Nursery Newsletter

Instilling Courage, Creativity, Compassion and Curiosity and always striving to be the best that we can be

'APPLY YOUR HEART TO DISCIPLINE AND YOUR EARS TO WORDS OF KNOWLEDGE' – PROVERBS 23:12



15th January 2021

Dear Parents and Friends,

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of the hard work you have put in to support your child during these challenging times. I appreciate for those of you who are trying to juggle working from home as well as home learning the time is going to be particularly difficult. Please remember you can only do what you can do. Also, please remember that once we are able to have all the children back in school we will support them to catch up on any missed areas of learning. Your children are amazing and are showing great resilience in these times. If you need to take a break from home learning please do so. Just remember that tomorrow is a new day.



Image: @CharlieMackesy

Oak Class Home-schooling Offer:

As we move further into this lockdown period we are working hard to develop our Home-schooling offer and have decided to try to move to Teams Classroom learning. This will mean instead of receiving an email with your child's work for the week, their work will be posted onto the Class Teams page and they will be able to work on it from there. They will be able to join in whole class conversations, upload their work for marking as well as complete challenges that are set. Initially, we will also send the learning out by email, as we have previously, to ensure that we have a backup and then we will move entirely to Teams Classroom once any issues have been ironed out. We hope that this will help your child to feel more connected.

For children not in Oak, we will be rolling this out across the school over the coming weeks but have decided to start with the oldest children first.

Accessing Online Learning:

If you are struggling to access online learning due to a lack of devices or the cost of wifi, then please do contact the school and we will try to help.

Gold Book Awards:

We will announce these and present them virtually during Mondays live session.

Struggling in Challenging Times:

As I am sure many of you are aware, Reverend Mark has been running a community pantry on his porch for several months to support anyone who is struggling. The community pantry has now moved to the porch of St James's Church in Nayland, in the west Porch, so for those of you who need it - it is accessible 24 hours a day, and for those of you who might feel able, donations are always welcome.

For anyone who is struggling to pay heating bills etc. then please do call Citizens Advice Bureau, who may be able to help you from the Surviving Winter Appeal funded by Suffolk Community Foundation. The telephone number is **01473 219770**.

Device Recycling Scheme:

Neil Bevis, who runs a computer repair shop in Hadleigh, started running a scheme refurbishing donated computers and giving them away for free to those in need. He has given away over 50 currently. We are aware that purchasing devices, new or second hand, can be expensive for some families. If you or anyone you may know need the assistance, please find Neil's wonderful work on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/neiljbevis>

Free School Meals:

The topic of Free School Meals (FSM) has been a hot topic in the news recently, particularly as meals or vouchers are being made available for FSM children during school closures such as the national lockdown or school holidays.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you receive certain benefits please use the following link to the Suffolk County Council's website to check your eligibility.

<https://tinyurl.com/yzlj35qh>

Your child will remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling, so you will not need to reapply even if your circumstances change. For eligible children, the school also receives funding to provide additional support to help improve outcomes for FSM children, so it is worth taking a few moments to check if your child is eligible.



Mrs Kelly McGrath Wells
Senior Teacher