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## St James' Church of England Junior School

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**Headteacher:** Mr Andrew Beattie

*"With exploring minds, and faith; we grow and learn together."*

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27<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Remote Learning Update**

We are now coming to the end of our first week of remote learning and I want to take this opportunity to say what a great job everyone is doing and how well you are all rising to the challenge.

We had a 'virtual staff meeting' on Wednesday night and would like to share with parents some of the staffs comments and ideas moving forward:

- 1) Teachers are happy to work with the structure of the day as it has been working so far. Work is being uploaded to Seesaw by 10am with the expectation that it is submitted by 2pm for marking. Parents have also reported that they are happy with this routine.
- 2) For Easter Holidays, there will be no Maths or English Uploads. There will be no CGP activities either. Instead, we will support families with 1 week-long project split into 5 parts (1 to be done Mon – Fri). We will also encourage children to work on their reading, timestables and spelling shed, to keep things ticking over and keep boredom at bay. We will also be posting on the 'Why Don't You?' page to keep giving parents inspiration of fun things to do.
- 3) Following Easter holidays (start back Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April) , the weekly routine will continue with daily Maths and English, and a weekly project set on Monday and handed back in on Friday. RE will also be set on a Monday to a Friday.
- 4) Please encourage children to spend sufficient time on their week-long projects. These projects should be detailed with regular revisits throughout the week (You can 'draft' your seesaw work which allows you to come back to it – orange button on top left of screen). "Miss, I'm finished"...is something children are skilled in using so be wary of this!
- 5) Aim to build a routine for study time. Children particularly like routine so aim to stick to the same time of day and same place for study. In addition to Seesaw & CGP, make regular time for reading, handwriting, tables and spellings. If you need help with a daily structure we have uploaded an editable template timetable on our website - <http://www.stjamesjun.cumbria.sch.uk/page/home-learning-links-resources/65059>



SCHOOL  
MEMBER

6) We are mindful that the daily routine needs to fit around parent's workload so we'll aim to be as flexible as we can, please email us if you have any issues.

7) Details of an app called Epic!, which is an online library have been uploaded to Seesaw. This app allows children to access lots and lots of new books and teachers can monitor from their end. Many of these books are also on Accelerated Reader so try and take an Accelerated Quiz to test your child's understanding.

If you haven't already please feel free to join our Facebook page: '**Wellington Row Why Don't You Gang**' – this is not an official school page but a way for our staff to reach out and engage with the children on a personal level. Parents have been great in uploading ideas for the kids to try out. There is also an official 'Why Don't You? Challenge' set daily to fill an hour if needed. Nothing is compulsory, but it has been a nice way for children to engage with their friends and for parents to feel connected.

Finally, I'd like to say a congratulatory 'Well Done' to staff, children, and especially parents; for adapting so well to our new way of working this week. In just 5 days, I am flabbergasted with the IT skills that have been on show (from both children and parents!) The quality of work has been simply amazing. I'm afraid I can't get to the photocopier but I'd like to send you all a virtual 'Pupil Of the Week' Certificate!!

I'm wishing you all a Happy Easter as much as possible at this time.

Stay safe everyone.



Mr A Beattie  
Head teacher

Throughout the coming weeks please keep us informed of feeling at your end, if you have any problems or other feedback, please email [admin@stjamesjun.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjamesjun.cumbria.sch.uk).

