

# MARSHFIELD CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning together, inspiring each other, achieving our best

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Dear Parents and Carers,

The team and I do hope you are all well and safe. None of us wanted to return to a lockdown where we were physically cut off from each other, but this is where we find ourselves. I have, at various points in the last few weeks, returned to the analogy of us all being on the same stormy waters, but having very different boats!

A few may be in their cruise liners, managing financially, balancing children learning at home and, if lucky, finding time for new hobbies or decorating. Others are very much in an inflatable dingy and desperately bailing out; balancing being required to work full time, having children at home who need multiple devices and support and, potentially, a lack of income. There are also lots of us who fit somewhere in-between. Whatever your ship, however stormy the waters, we are here and will always do our best to support and guide you.

Our Seesaw learning is working well and the vast majority of children have been able to engage fully – we love seeing the children's learning. This week teachers have begun their 1:1 sessions with children and parents and have very much enjoyed being able to spend time talking to you and the children. These will be continuing and very much valued by the team.

Home learning, like our boats, is different for every family and child. Some will be taking it all in their stride (and perhaps even enjoying it more than school), others will be doing it, but missing physical contact and some will be disliking it greatly and possibly making it very difficult at home. Whichever is happening for you, we know you are trying your best and want the best for your children.

In an ideal world every child would happily complete every activity and join every session, be reading daily and engaging with Timetable Rock Stars. Where this isn't happening or possible, please do try to read daily, where possible, focus on the English and maths activities and build from there. The videos and activities can be accessed at any time to give families a little more freedom and enable sharing of resources and time at home. The daily 'live' sessions with teachers are a mix of catching up, playing games and quizzes, giving feedback on the children's learning and some live teaching – this varies daily and between classes depending on what teachers believe the group most needs. Do what works best for your family. If you need any support, please do let us know.



We're working towards Artsmark  
Awarded by Arts Council England

Try to have a routine which works for you and includes some fun time and time outside together; be flexible – what works one day may not work the next and, most importantly, be kind to yourselves!

We may need to make a few tweaks to the timings for 1:1 sessions over the next few weeks, please bear with us as we find our way together – we will always try our very best to be flexible and fit with you.

## **Critical Workers**

As you may have seen in the news, uptake of places for the children of critical workers has risen significantly from the previous lock down. The message from the Government is clearly **Stay At Home**. Any parents who are working from home, should have their children at home with them:

‘Parents whose work is critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors outlined in the following sections. Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school or college if required, **but parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can.**’

The provision should be used where there is no other option.

To critical workers who need the provision, we are very happy to welcome your children in to school, and will do our very best to keep them safe whilst you are performing your critical role at work – **thank you for everything you are doing.**

Thank you to those parents who read/re-read the updated guidance (updated Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January) and recognised that they should keep their children at home, no matter how difficult this was – we appreciate your support.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

If your situation changes please do let us know.

## **Assembly**

It was a joy to see many children connecting through our assembly yesterday. Whole school assemblies will take place every Thursday at 2.30pm. A link will be added to the children’s Seesaw page to make connecting as easy as possible! It was lovely to see pictures of the children enjoying the story and following the actions to the song. Next week’s assembly will be led by David Spence.

We do hope you, your families and loved ones stay safe and well. Please do contact us if you need any support.

Very best wishes

Jessica Bolt and the Marshfield Team

