



Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School Academy

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Thursday 7th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to start by thanking all of you who have supported your children at home during the past week. This week, the school have received well over 2500 pieces of work that have been submitted via the SeeSaw App. Whilst speaking with teachers, many have commented on how good it has been to see such a large number of their class completing the work that has been set for them.

As I am sure many of you would have noticed, during this school closure we have made a slight change to the way in which we provide the children with work at home. Each day, the children in Reception to Year 2 will be provided with several short videos which will be accompanied with an activity that they will be able to complete and send back to their teacher using the SeeSaw App. The short videos are designed to outline the key understanding that is needed to complete the task. These are saved on our website and can be accessed throughout the day/week. I am aware that some schools have chosen to complete live sessions during this lockdown; however, we have decided that currently our approach is the most flexible option we can provide to best support working families and those with multiple children. Having a whole family working remotely for many can be very difficult - it is our hope that the flexibility of pre-recorded videos will allow parents to manage their days as they wish. This will hopefully prevent families having multiple meetings at the same time and relieve some of the potential stresses linked to home schooling. This type of remote learning will continue for the duration of the lockdown.

These videos can be accessed using the links below -

Reception:

https://www.hadleigh-inf.essex.sch.uk/web/year_r_home_learning_january_2021

Year 1:

https://www.hadleigh-inf.essex.sch.uk/web/year_1_home_learning_january_2021

Year 2:

https://www.hadleigh-inf.essex.sch.uk/web/year_2_home_learning_january_2021

Please remember the school's online reading books can be accessed daily. If you require your child's login details again - please contact your child's class teacher.

In addition to the school's current offer, I am pleased to announce we will be adding some more aspects to our provision. Details of the additional aspects can be found in the sections below -

Additional Books

I have purchased two additional work books for each child (Reception - Year 2) which will be sent out by the beginning of next week at the latest. These books will be linked to handwriting, phonics or times tables depending on year group. It is hoped that these books will provide two activities the children will be able to complete on a daily basis in addition to the work being sent via SeeSaw. These activities will be able to be completed independently by the children and will focus on essential skills that they require. The books will arrive in the post. With these books and the activities posted on SeeSaw the children will be supplied up to 6 activities every day.

Weekly live session with your class

Every Monday, the children will be invited to attend a live session on Zoom with their class teacher and the rest of their class. This session will last for 15 minutes and will be led by a teacher. During this session, the children may have the opportunity to talk with their teacher, discuss things that they have enjoyed doing in the previous week and have the opportunity to find out what they are going to learn about in the coming weeks. It is our hope that these sessions will allow the children to keep the feeling that they are part of a class regardless of where they are completing their learning. The teacher leading the session each week will also identify who has won the Star of the Week certificate for the week before. Once this has been announced, the certificate will be sent through the post to any child who has won it and is currently learning from home. These live sessions will be staggered to ensure there are no clashes if multiple siblings are in different year groups. The timings can be found below -

9:00am - Nursery

9:15am - Reception

9:30am - Year 1

9:45am - Year 2

The zoom code and password will be the same every week and will be sent out to parents tomorrow. The first meeting will take place on Monday 11th January 2021.

Live story session with Mr Proctor

Every week I will be completing an online Zoom session with each year group where I will be reading one of my favourite stories. These sessions will take place on Friday afternoons at the following times -

1:45pm - Nursery

2:00pm - Reception

2:15pm - Year 1

2:30pm - Year 2

The zoom code and password will be the same every week and will be sent out to parents early next week. The first meeting will take place on Friday 15th January 2021.

Fab Fridays to continue

During the past term, the teachers decided to create Fab Fridays. This was designed to give the children something to look forward each week and allowed us all to have a little fun during a very challenging time. Each week the staff would need to wear something linked to the same theme - this ranged from funny footwear to Christmas decorations. The children were then given the challenge to try and work out what the theme was. If they could work this out before lunchtime they were provided with a treat in class. Despite the vast majority of the children working from home, we wanted this to continue. Each Friday the children will be sent a picture (via SeeSaw) of some members of staff and they will have to try and work out the theme. Once they have an idea of what the theme may be, they can send their answers back to their teacher. The teachers will collate the answers received and will submit them to me. Each week there will be a winning class and we will also be keeping a running total. At the end of each half term, the class who are winning the running total will receive a certificate and prize in the post. The weekly and ongoing scores will be placed on the school's website.

Live Wellbeing Session with Mrs Burls

Mrs Burls will be hosting Zoom sessions that parents will be able to drop into if they would like any wellbeing support. These sessions are designed to be short but will allow parents or carers who need someone to talk to an opportunity to see a friendly face and discuss what support we can provide moving forward. These sessions will take place from 9:30am until 10:15am on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday every week. I would like to remind parents that you can also contact the school for support using the email and phone number below:

Phone - 07368938194

Email - Wellbeingsupport@hadleigh-inf.essex.sch.uk

Regardless of this being our third lockdown in the past year, we are aware that families still find these times extremely difficult, isolating and challenging. As a school, we pride ourselves on not only trying our best to meet the needs of our children but for our entire community - so please reach out to us if you need help.

Since the first lockdown in March 2020, I have always said that we fully understand the challenges that home schooling may bring into your home. We have reviewed our previous actions and have tried to improve our offer to best support you at this time. Please do not put too much pressure on yourselves when supporting your children at home and remember that my team are here to support you during the next few weeks.

I currently have no idea how long this lockdown will last but it is my hope that it will be as short as it possibly can be. The school is never the same when it is not full of your children and I hope that the classrooms are full before we know it. As you would expect, I will continue to review all of our actions and will make any changes that are required to improve the opportunities we are providing your children. It is our hope that the additions outlined in this letter will further improve our provision and make the children who are working from home feel much more part of the school. If you are concerned by what the school is offering your child, please contact your child's teacher who will be happy to work with you to find the best resolutions to your concerns.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for the support you have shown the school during the past year and especially the past few days. I know your support means a lot to all of the staff and we hope that we can continue to work closely together to best support your child in the coming days, weeks and months.

Yours sincerely

Mr. S. Proctor

Whilst the children are working from home, you can contact your child's teacher using the SeeSaw App or using the appropriate email below:

Nursery - YearNsupport@hadleigh-inf.essex.sch.uk

Reception - YearRsupport@hadleigh-inf.essex.sch.uk

Year 1 - Year1support@hadleigh-inf.essex.sch.uk

Year 2 - Year2support@hadleigh-inf.essex.sch.uk