



SINGLETON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Charlton Road
Singleton
West Sussex
PO18 0HP**

**Telephone: 01243 811679
Email: office@singleton.school
Headteacher: Mrs Theresa Smyth**

08/01/21

Dear Parents and Carers,

Although it feels a little incongruous with current circumstances – Happy New Year to you all.

This week has been quite the rollercoaster for you as families, the team in school and myself. However it is testament to the strength and compassion of our small but wonderful community, that we have been able to make speedy arrangements, have Google Classroom up and running and ensure everyone is ready to manage the coming weeks.

Thank you all for your understanding and patience over the past week. It has made all the difference to our school team.

On Thursday afternoon, we received this wonderful surprise. An edible bouquet. The card simply said from 'the ever grateful parents'.

Thank you so much – it is AMAZING and very much appreciated!



GOOGLE CLASSROOMS and families at home.

After a couple of password glitches – it would seem most of you managed to connect with the teachers in school. Thanks for persevering.

I am currently writing the Remote Learning Policy. This will outline the expectation for home learning in terms of both the school's provision of and the engagement of children and families.

We appreciate that for many of you there will be juggling happening, whether working from home, supporting more than one child, or sharing devices between you.

We have provided a timetable to support you with some notion of the 'expected' amount of time children need to focus on home learning.

The DfE have asked that children in Key Stage 1 have three hours learning provision per day and the children in Key Stage 2, four hours a day. We are meeting this target.

The staff in Willow and Beech are teaching the children at home and school 'back to back'. The lesson online will be replicated in school afterwards. In Oak Class, the learning is simultaneous with the children at home and school.

This ensures parity of content provision. The children in school will also follow the same 'topic' focus in the afternoon.

If you have family timetable constraints, the maths and English learning may be completed at a different point in the day. The learning content will remain on Google Classroom.

We are also looking into recording the lessons and posting the link in the online Classrooms, for those occasions when your child is unable to attend a Google Meet.

The Meet sessions are important, not just for the direct teaching, but also for connecting both with the teacher and at some point over the next week or two, the class.

Do remember that the teachers will make short comments on any learning sent in. However, the majority of the feedback will be in the Goggle Meet sessions, as this is when any misconceptions can be addressed and ways to improve given.

It is very important that I monitor the workload for the teaching team too. We know how vital the connectivity for the children at home is and the teachers are very committed to making this work. We know it will take a couple of weeks to get into a pattern of work.

However if we need to make changes to either uploaded content or revise or tweak the timetable slightly, we will communicate this with you in advance and only after thorough discussion.

READING BOOKS

Next Thursday (14th) between **9am – 2pm**, reading books for pupils at home **FULL** time will be outside the front of school on a table. The bags will be marked with your child's name. In some bags, there may be some extra items to support learning. These items will need to be returned, so please ensure they are looked after.

To our children at home.

Hello – to you all. We are so glad that we have been able to see most of you already. I know there has already been some fantastic learning happening – well done.

In school, we are using a book called: My Name is not Refugee. I am reading this book to all of the classes and making a display with some of the learning.



The book is on You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q9n1plse2K4&safe=true>

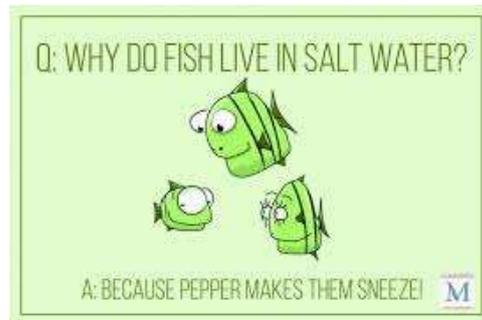
This week we have thought about the first question. If you had to leave your home, say goodbye to friends and family, what would you pack in a bag. Remember you would have to carry it!



Can you draw a 'suitcase' or rucksack and draw the items you would take with you inside the bag.

If you EMAIL it to head@singleton.school – or drop it off when you come to pick up your reading books next week, we can then display your learning alongside the ones in school.

Finally a joke of the week for you all!



Worship in School

This week we have thought about the arrival of the Three Kings, who followed the star to meet Jesus. The children have thought about what 'gifts' they can offer to Jesus – which cannot be wrapped! We thought about offering, love, faith, hope, compassion, joy How many more can you think of?

This is a brilliant website if you want to find out more:

<https://www.whychristmas.com/story/wisemen.shtml>

Prayer

Dear God, the Wise Men knew that Jesus was special. Help us to remember that we can make Jesus special in our lives, too. Amen

Remember – stay in touch – we are here for you, whatever the question, worry or concern.

Take great care and stay safe.

Theresa Smyth and the Singleton Team