



Respectful, Resourceful, Resilient

A creative approach to learning where all pupils can succeed

Dear Parents/Carers,

15th January 2021

I hope that you are all now adjusting to the new restrictions and keeping each other safe. Thank you to you all for coping with the stress and uncertainty that last week brought, and for the many positive comments of support we have received in school. Staff have worked tirelessly to set things up quickly and to answer queries as they go. We know things aren't perfect yet, but we are working hard to improve this over the half term. It has been a week of bleak news and we have tried our best to keep pupils in school and at home upbeat and happy through a package of remote learning designed to inspire and motivate. At Boasley Cross, our core value is 'RESPECT' this term. There are so many people who deserve our respect for the incredible work that they do in the face of this crisis – the NHS, carers, school staff and the wider community. This week, see if you can encourage your child to show their RESPECT through making a poster/drawing a picture and post on Class Dojo.

The guidance is to stay at home if you can – nobody wants to put anyone at extra risk. Only the children of critical workers, vulnerable children and pre-school can access school if school has the capacity – we are keeping children distanced and safe as well as looking after our staff. For more information, please refer to <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/education-and-childcare>.

Remote learning guidance

Thank you for persevering with our package of home learning. At Boasley, we have been astounded by the level of learning coming through the portfolio section of Class Dojo. You have all got to grips with the platform now and it seems to be working well. Please continue to ask for extra help/guidance if you need to. We want to make your home learning experience as smooth as it can possibly be and understand that lots of us are juggling work, running a home and our children's education. Staff are here to help. The message will always be 'do what you can', take regular breaks outdoors for your wellbeing and stay positive!

Please find attached some guidance on READING during remote learning from the EEF (Education Endowment Foundation). There are some key ideas to help your child progress in reading such as – listen and encourage, take turns to make predictions and recap to check understanding.

I am also attaching a 'planning the day' template that may be of use at home. Research tells us that setting a clear structure is key to successful home learning. Taking regular exercise and drinking water, giving praise to your child – all of these things will add to a positive day. Try using this template next week and let us know how you get on through Class Dojo. Have a go!

Accessing remote learning

If you are having difficulty accessing remote learning then please contact the school office. We may be able to supply you with a chrome book for use at home to make accessibility easier. This can be challenging if siblings are sharing a device for example. We will try to support you in any way we can.

The DfE has produced some guidance on what remote education should look like for parents: https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/01/08/what-should-remote-education-look-like-how-can-your-child-learn-remotely-if-you-dont-have-a-laptop-we-answer-your-remote-learning-questions/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Schools can now request help to increase mobile data allowances for children and young people who:

- do not have fixed broadband at home
- cannot afford additional data for their devices
- are experiencing disruption to their face-to-face education.

If increasing mobile data isn't a suitable option for some children, schools can also request 4G wireless routers. If you think either of these options would help you with remote learning, please email admin@boasleycross.devon.sch.uk to register your interest.

Zoom 'class catch ups'

It has been lovely to see class teachers in their 'catch up' class sessions on Zoom today. Thank you for consenting and facilitating this. It is so empowering for them to see and interact with their friends at this time; we will aim to get together virtually on a weekly basis with your child's class teacher.

Zoom guidance

This week I have sent out some safeguarding guidance on using Zoom for a virtual 'catch up'. Please ensure that you have read and understood this guidance. Thank you for your ongoing support.

School Meals – Devon Norse

Hot school meals are available each day for critical worker and vulnerable pupils – these are cooked at Bridestowe Primary and delivered in a take away box. The

children at Boasley have been really excited to have lunch in a take away box and it really has warmed them up in our well ventilated (and rather chilly) school. These are available to all children accessing school provision – please email orders through to admin by 9am each morning.

Finally, with most of you having missed out on schooling in the first lockdown, we want to do all we can to build on our children’s wellbeing and learning. We hope that, together, we can do this and help our children to flourish. Please look after yourselves and each other.

Kindest regards,



Mrs Deirdre Petersen

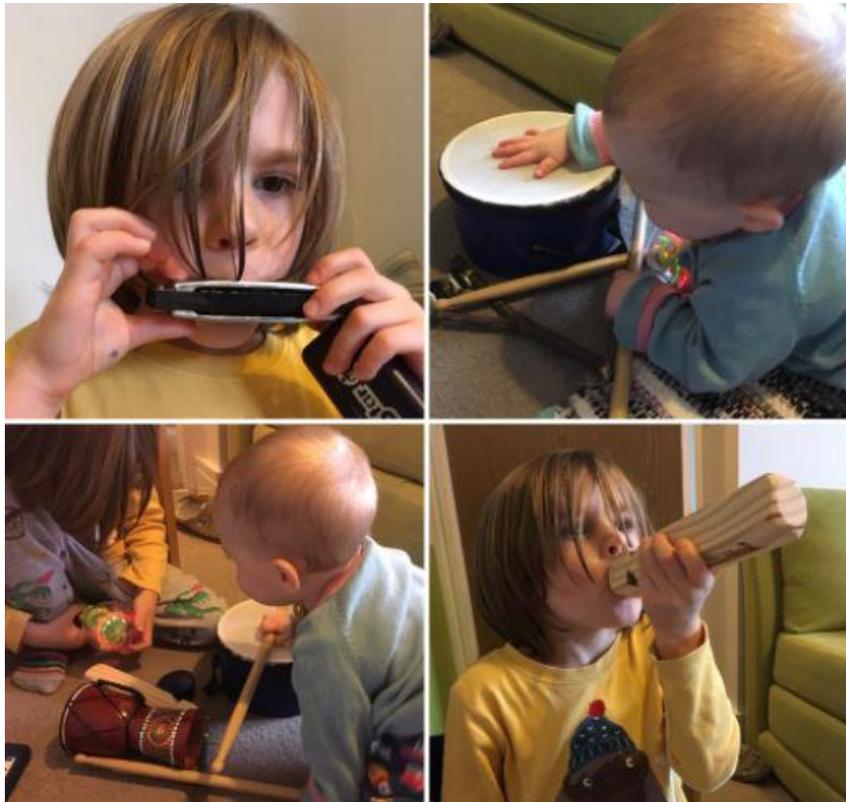
HOME LEARNING GALLERY



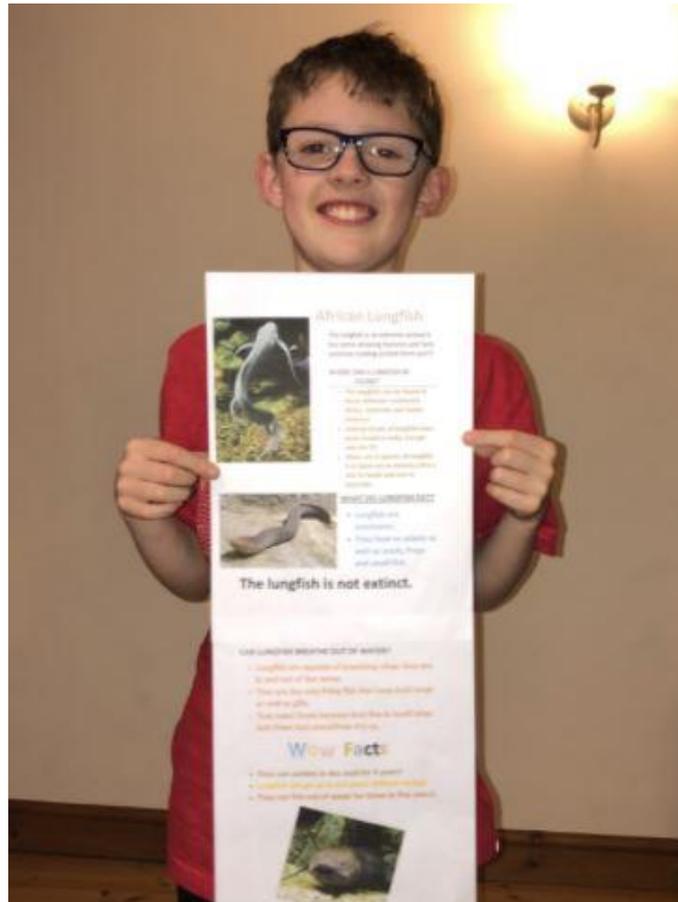
JOWAN – POETRY WITH THE CAT



ALFIE - BAKING



BARNABY - 'DINO' SOUNDS



HARRISON – LUNG FISH RESEARCH



ESTHER & MARAH – CORAL REEF WORK

Enjoy reading with TRUST

T Take turns to make predictions



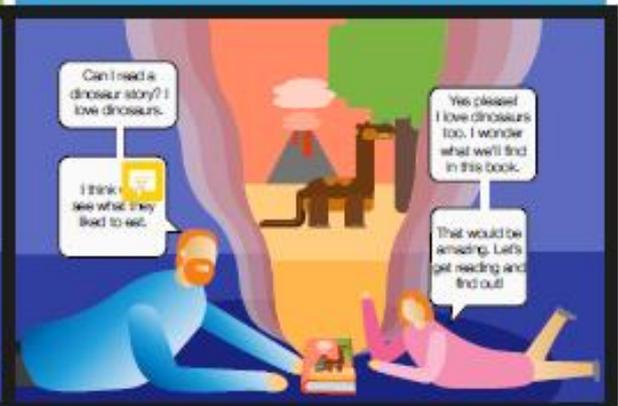
R Recap to check ideas & understanding

U Use encouragement and praise



S Share prior knowledge & past experiences

T Tune-in and listen. Be curious with your child



The TRUST framework was adapted from 'High Quality Interactions' in the EEF's guidance report [Preparing for Literacy](#) [p.9]

Supporting home learning routines

Planning the day

Consistent routines are important for behaviour and wellbeing in school and our routines at home have changed significantly. Routines support behaviour and you will be finding a new rhythm with your family. You could share this checklist with your child. Talk to them to help them plan their new routines.

The importance of simple approaches as part of a regular routine is key recommendation 4 of the EEF's guidance report [Improving Behaviour in Schools](#)

	M	T	W	T	F
 I woke up at a good time.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
 I did some exercise.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
 I had regular meals and drank water.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
 I enjoyed some reading in a quiet space.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
 I practised a maths skill.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
 I completed some school work at my work space. I chunked it so I had some breaks too.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
 I talked to my family about my day and how I am feeling. I asked them about their day.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
 I helped with a household job and talked to my family while I did it.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
 I contacted my friends.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
 I spent some time on my creative hobby.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
 My parent/carer told me what I did well.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
 My goal:	<input type="checkbox"/>				
 My goal:	<input type="checkbox"/>				



Advice for parents of SEN children

It's safe to say that we are living in uncertain times again. We are currently advised to stay at home and, for many of us, educating our children at home is a somewhat new experience. Children with SEN often require teaching to be adapted in order for them to access the curriculum so I thought I'd compile some basic tips to help you navigate the days ahead.

- If you are able to do nothing else, focus on the basics: reading, writing and maths.
- Game-based learning helps children to engage in their learning without you needing a teaching degree. Sites like Nessy (reading/spelling), Times Tables Rock Stars, Easi-maths or Maths Frame (<https://mathsframe.co.uk>) are all useful. Sit alongside them to act as a guide and give praise often (praise the effort, not the outcome!).
- Keep sessions short with frequent breaks (these could be quick movement breaks, a game of rock, paper, scissors or eye-spy, etc).
- Build in plenty of repetition and revision (but not necessarily delivered the same way every time).
- It's OK to sometimes scribe for them or let them dictate their work into a device if writing is a struggle.
- Make Maths practical: play 'shops', monopoly, do some baking (if you can buy flour!), etc.
- Project-based work is accessible for all children and creative tasks are really rewarding.
- Watching an episode of Blue Planet or Horrible Histories can help you widen the curriculum without you needing to become an expert on the Victorians – sit with them and talk about what you're watching.
- Stick to a routine (important for a lot of SEN kids especially in the current situation).
- Build in plenty of physical activity during the day. Joe Wicks is presenting a PE lesson every morning at 9am on YouTube. See if you can keep up with your children!
- Think about awarding 'merits' for good effort, independent learning, neat handwriting, not annoying your sister, etc.

Most of all, if you manage to cover some of the basics every day, you'll help your child keep the learning 'habit'.

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/book-hopes/>