

Good morning and welcome to the start of term 5

I hope you are safe and well. I know some families in our school community have been directly affected by the virus; that some have sadly lost loved ones and others are taking time right now to rest and recover - please accept all of our thoughts, very best wishes and support, and let us know if there's anything we can do to help.

Learning and teaching

Please note that the information below describes what our teachers will make available to families. There is absolutely no requirement or pressure for children to complete tasks, or to work to a certain timescale or order. Teachers will present options for parents to pick and choose. Some children and families will want to do more and some less, that's fine. This is a challenging time, and you know your child/ren and situation best.

For most children, today marks the start of a new (temporary) phase of online learning and teaching. Our teachers will write separately about how this should work for each class, but we have agreed a few principles and a protocol across the school (in line with parents' survey responses):

- Teachers will post a class schedule for the week on a Monday morning, so that parents know and can better plan for what's coming and what to choose and when
- All daily learning tasks will be posted by 9am (some may be posted well in advance, the day before or even earlier) so that no one is left waiting if you choose to work in the morning
- Weekly learning tasks will include (but are not limited to) reading, writing, maths, science and learning about the International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Teachers might highlight occasional 'key tasks', but these are still optional.

The IB is an internationally-recognised, world class curriculum framework that we have started to introduce and develop in our academy, and will continue to do so over the next two years. The National Curriculum sits within the IB framework and, for us, our highly successful learning and teaching strategy that we have been building over the past seven years is broadly very aligned with it. Introducing the framework in this way is a very natural next step, in fact Ofsted recognises the introduction of an exceptional curriculum in primary schools to be outstanding practice. Mrs Rawling will write more about the IB via Dojo in the weeks ahead.

Please remember that signing up to ClassDojo is simple and free. If you received an invitation, click accept and it will guide you through. If not, visit the website www.classdojo.com and click sign up. Follow the instructions to connect with Paddock Wood Primary, otherwise please email enquiries@paddockwoodprimaryacademy.org.uk for help.

We will aim to continue to send paper-based packs out in the post to families who do not have online access.

We all want to get this as 'right' as we can, please do continue to use the message function of ClassDojo or email to communicate directly with teachers. Maintaining children's mental health and well-being through this are paramount for us all.

With best wishes
Scott