

# Home Learning Update

Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> February

Dear Parents/Carers,

We can all see the light at the end of the COVID tunnel now with the vaccination programme in full swing. It has been a rough and difficult journey for many of us within the school community, be that the children, the staff, and for you as parents.

We have all lived with the worries about our own families' health, and our children's learning and wellbeing for nearly a year now. We have marveled at the care and support the local community has shown each other, the determination to see things through and the drive to do the best we can for our children whilst keeping everyone as safe as we can.

We are now on the last steps of that journey, and as difficult as those steps may be, we can get there together. We are ready to educate and support your children, to bring back the smiles of being together with their friends again, and to bring back the fun of school.

## Half Term (15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> February)

Next week is half-term and for many of you this means a break from home schooling, screens and the anxieties and stresses of supporting your children's learning at home. We fully understand it is far from easy and many of us are parents too and have the same difficulties.

The weather forecast is looking up, with warmer and hopefully drier weather ahead for the week (fingers crossed). We would heartily recommend spending that time away from the internet for all of you and relaxing as much as you can.

We will leave the work on Seesaw (and activities on tapestry). We will archive activities on Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> February just in case anyone wants to catch up on activities missed, or revisit the additional activities during half term. However, Mr Snape has told staff to take a break from the screens too and teachers have been asked not to mark or feedback during next week.

## After Half Term Home Learning (22<sup>nd</sup> February)

On our return Mr James will be on paternity leave after the birth of his baby son this week (congratulations Mr James – sleepless nights ahead). As the amazing teacher he is, Mr James has already uploaded work to Seesaw that will roll out each day. Clearly not all of this will be as personalised as he normally provides but the quality will remain high. Other school staff will support marking and feedback for the weeks beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> February and 1<sup>st</sup> March - though knowing Mr James we are sure he will be having a look whilst escaping the odd nappy change!

On our return to Home Schooling on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, the staff will build in a no screen day in the first week, and with the following week being World Book Day we are looking at some simple but fun activities that can be achieved as families.

# Home Learning Update

## Return to School

Children of Key Workers will return to school on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

We still have no news on when schools will reopen so we are not currently looking beyond the 8<sup>th</sup> March, the earliest date we were told this **may** happen. In the meantime, we have employed Mrs Shemwell to support the school until the end of the summer term in a PPA role. Ms Mike will continue to teach her class alongside Miss Allanson for half the week but will now provide extra Catch-Up Programmes for 2 days a week on our return to school in addition to the programmes already started before the lockdown.

## Remember, be in contact if you need us.

Take care of yourselves.

Yours sincerely



Mr N. Snape

Headteacher and the Pilsley Staff Team

## Message From the School Office Team

We are aware some of you have experienced difficulties with using our current 'school jotter' app and we are committed to trying to improve communications between school and families. Therefore, we have been looking at alternatives that we hope may prove to be more user friendly from both a school and parent perspective.



We are planning to trial a new app called **ParentHub** from now until Easter (running alongside our current school app during the trial period).

Therefore, please could you all download the app ASAP by following the instructions on 'Invitation Poster for School Channel @PilsleyPri' below to be able to follow the main school channel @PilsleyPri

Make sure you select which channels (classes) you wish to follow.

If you are a parent, you will then need to follow the instructions on your screen to verify your details so you can also receive specific individual messages regarding your child. If you have more than one child, you will only need to provide the details for one of the children and the app should link the other siblings to your account. If you are not a parent, i.e. Grandparents that still want to follow our school channel you can just skip this section by clicking the cross to the top right hand corner.

# Home Learning Update

Towards the end of the trial period we will seek feedback/ comments from Parents, however if in the meantime you experience any problems please do not hesitate to contact the school office after half term by email [info@pilsley-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@pilsley-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk) or by telephone on 01773 872378.

Many thanks for your support  
Pilsley Primary School Office



## Pilsley Primary School

would like you to join their school on Parent Hub.

Just tap "Join a School " in the app and enter the handle below...

@PilsleyPri

The Parent Hub app is FREE to download and use.



### What is Parent Hub?



Parent Hub is a FREE app that helps keep you up to date with what's going on at school. You'll receive messages, pictures, documents and newsletters, all in one handy place.

### Instructions for Parents



1. Download the Parent Hub app from your app store (iPhone or Android).
2. Create yourself an account.
3. Choose "Join a School" and enter the school handle (above).

Visit [www.parenthub.co.uk](http://www.parenthub.co.uk) to find out more