ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Horse Shoes Lane, Sheldon, Birmingham, B26 3HU

Principal: Mrs K Madia

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www.sttommor.bham.sch.uk

Christ is the centre of our school community where we live, love and learn together.

Thursday 7th January 2021

Dear Parent/Guardians,

We are happy that we have some of our children in school for face-to-face teaching but we are so sad that we do not have everyone back. In school, we are balancing face to face teaching, home learning (blended learning as we often call it) and trying to keep our staff and children safe by keeping them in year group bubbles, 2 metres apart.

We are keen to know if you have any genuine barriers to accessing or completing the home learning, so that we can support you. Please read carefully the following information to ascertain whether this applies to you.

- Home learning does take time and effort. I appreciate that this is difficult for you but this is what the whole nation is facing.
- Our home learning is found, as it has been since the first lockdown, on the children's year group pages on the school website (www.sttommor.bham.sch.uk).
- You will find a timetable so that you know which lessons to access. We haven't specified times as we appreciate that it needs to fit in with your working day and different circumstances.
- Every week your class teacher will contact you either via email or telephone so that they can talk to you/your child about their learning. Please use this as an opportunity to share any concerns.
- Please email completed work to your child's teacher so that they can see how your child is doing with their learning and provide feedback. Teachers are on hand to support but as parents you should now be checking in with the child to support them as you are your child's first educators. Staff email addresses can be found below and on the blended learning and who's who pages of our website.

  RDS – Mrs Sullivan: d.sullivan@sttommor.bham.sch.uk
  RRS – Miss Sharpe: r.sharpe@sttommor.bham.sch.uk
  1M – Miss Matts: a.matts@sttommor.bham.sch.uk
  1W – Miss Wheeler: k.wheeler@sttommor.bham.sch.uk
  2MP – Mrs Maher: m.maher@sttommor.bham.sch.uk , Mrs Poole: m.poole@sttommor.bham.sch.uk
  2S – Miss Sharpe: r.sharpe1@sttommor.bham.sch.uk
  3CP – Mrs Clarke-Pitcher: a.clarke@sttommor.bham.sch.uk
  3M – Mrs Mullen: o.mullen@sttommor.bham.sch.uk
  4D – Miss Delaney: h.delaney@sttommor.bham.sch.uk
  4GT – Miss Gallagher: j.gallagher@sttommor.bham.sch.uk , Mrs Tighe: e.tighe@sttommor.bham.sch.uk
  5B – Mr Burke: d.burke@sttommor.bham.sch.uk
  5M – Mr Moynihan: d.moynihan@sttommor.bham.sch.uk
  6J – Mr Jordan: m.jordan@sttommor.bham.sch.uk
  6P – Mr Poole: j.poole@sttommor.bham.sch.uk

- Underneath the timetable in the year group pages are PowerPoints, links to videos and resources etc., for all of the learning for that week.
- We have designed the home learning so that you do not need to print it off. It can be accessed on ANY device, including mobile phones and we have included below how your child can access it through their XBox and PlayStation:

XBox:

1) Plug a keyboard in to the XBox ISB slot
2) Go in to my games and apps
3) Find Microsoft Edge and select
4) type in: www.sttommor.bham.sch.uk and log in as you would in do normally
5) You can then access your work through the class pages and use key pages including: word, Teams, Excel, PowerPoint, Your emails

To move around you use the X Box controller or plug in a mouse

PlayStation:

1) Identify the PlayStation Internet icon (it is WWW with dots around it)
2) Press the PS4 logo on the controller
3) Go to the library and find options for games and applications
4) Go in to applications and you will find the internet browser
5) Type in: www.sttommor.bham.sch.uk and log in as you would in do normally
6) You can then access your work through the class pages and use key pages including: word, Teams, Excel, PowerPoint, your emails

- Every day there is at least 3 hours of learning time planned covering all subjects over the week.
- If your child is having part time face to face teaching and part time home learning, they will follow the learning on the day/s that they are at home, e.g. if your child is at home on a Friday, they will complete this work. That is because the learning at school mirrors the learning at home.
- We will be checking spelling shed and times tables rock stars also to see that the children are accessing these excellent resources.

Should you need extra work for your children, please consider looking at the following excellent resources:
for maths: http://www.ncetm.org.uk/in-the-classroom/teaching-maths-through-the-pandemic/primary-video-lessons/

Oak National Academy and BBC Bitesize daily are also great

for free access to audio books: https://www.booksfortopics.com/storytime-online

for general learning material try: new-resources@social.twinkl.co.uk

http://resoucres-bank.scholastic.co.uk for FREE Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler packs linked to wonderful picture books

Please also see our social media sites and the website for lots more free and easy to access resources. There really is a multitude of different learning resources, activities and platforms. Your child/ren's class teacher will also point you in the direction of any other material that is suitable for your child's particular year group. Don't forget to tweet us or email in pictures of any fun activities you do!

Weekly God's Gifts celebration assemblies will be starting next Friday and we will be looking at the learning done at home, as well as the learning done in school, to celebrate. Assemblies can still be accessed weekly on our YouTube channel and on our video resource centre on our website, where you will also find teaching videos. Daily prayers are posted onto our social media.

Feel free to use the learning from other year groups on the website if the learning is either too easy or too hard but please make sure that you feed this back to your child's teacher because they will want to support you and your child as much as possible.

If you do not hear from your child's teacher by the close of Friday, please contact the school office via email or telephone as it might be that we have incorrect contact numbers. Please note that some staff will be calling from school but some will be calling from a withheld number. IT IS VITAL THAT WE SPEAK WITH YOU OTHERWISE WE WILL INITIATE A SAFETY AND WELFARE CHECK.

PE timetable for face-to-face teaching: (Please ensure that your child comes to school in their PE kits)
Wednesday: Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4
Thursday: Reception, Year 1, Year 5 and Year 6

Thank you for your efforts,

K Madia
Principal