

Friday 2nd October 2020



Dear Parents

As the weather is changing we are adapting some of our school guidelines:

- Pupils can use a base layer/skins for PE days, as PE has to be conducted outside. Navy blue joggers and the navy crew neck sweatshirt are also advisable and available from Price and Buckland online.
- We know classrooms are now getting cold with the additional ventilation that we have to provide. So we have now advised staff to close the outside door on cold days and just keep the windows open. Pupils are able to wear a base layer under their uniform if they do feel the cold. Please remember that children need coats every day in school.
- If your child is using an umbrella to and from school, please can you take it home with you for the day, as there is nowhere to store them in class.
- Year 6 children are being reminded to walk to school sensibly. Sadly over the past few weeks there have been many reports of year 6 children shouting, playing roughly and not distancing from the public. I do have to say though, we have had one compliment on the behaviour of a couple of our year 6 children from a parent near Bennett school. Well done to them!

Nourish food bank donations are being collected by the school from 1st to 23rd October.
Please drop off donations in the boxes at the entrance to the school building.



Home Learning at Bishops Down

With the likelihood that many children will experience at least part of this academic year learning at home, we are committed to using our class pages on the school's website to maintain the connection between home and school learning. Please keep this letter to hand.

If your child is in Nursery, Reception or Year 1, they will be accessing their learning via Tapestry. Children who are unable to attend school due to COVID related isolation and are well within themselves, should be accessing home learning each day to ensure they continue to make good progress this academic year.



Home Learning in the Early Years and Year 1 – Guidance for Parents

How to access your child's learning

Teachers will share their weekly plan on Tapestry using the memos section. This avoids the children's journals filling with observations that don't correspond with their learning and progress. This memo will be shared each Monday.

In **Nursery**, there will be an idea for each day in line with the chosen text. This may be a point for discussion or activity to try at home.

In **Reception**, we will share our weekly plan with a discussion point or activity for PSED, Maths and English/Topic for Term 1, moving on to including phonics and PE in Term 2. As the year progresses, we may include further activities and ideas.

In **Year 1**, a weekly timetable will be available with an activity idea for each lesson. Again, the Year 1 lessons and ideas will likely develop as the year goes on and the children are ready for further challenge. A video will be available of the set text, so you do not need to have a physical copy at home.

Home Learning Years 2-6

How to Access Home Learning

- Visit the schools website via this link <https://www.bishopsdownprimary.org/>
- Select the 'Classes' tab
- Choose appropriate class



Your child's class teacher will be uploading the same learning which is taking place in the classroom that week and uploading the lessons taught that day to the website after school. This means that you will be accessing the learning one day after it was taught in class. Please, therefore, click on the links to the previous day's learning which will be dated one day behind.

Your child will have access to daily lessons in:

✓ **Maths**

✓ **Reading Skills**

✓ **Writing/Topic**

These should be completed each morning. In the afternoon, children should complete their final lesson by clicking on the Oak National Academy link and following the website to their year group. They must complete one lesson (not English or Maths) from this website. In summary, children should be aiming to complete the Maths, Reading Skills and Topic lessons set by their teacher each morning and the additional lesson from Oak National Academy in the afternoon. Children are encouraged to manage their own time-taking appropriate breaks as and when needed. A timetable is also available on the class page which shows which lessons to complete on each day.



Please can the parent driving a silver ford focus stop using Rose Hill as a cut through?

They have noticed over several mornings and afternoons the car is driven at speed through the campus and a Bishops Down child left or collected at the bottom of Rydal Close.

Reception and Nursery Online Tapestry Workshop



We are pleased to be able to invite you to a virtual workshop on:

Thursday 8th and Friday 9th October - 4pm to 4.45pm

The workshop will aim to equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to make the most out of Tapestry, particularly with home learning. This will include how to make an observation, how to access 'memos' for information and what you can expect from your child's teacher on Tapestry. You do not need to have a Tapestry log-in for the meeting but we strongly suggest that if you do not currently have Tapestry access, you email the office so that an account can be created for you.

Please sign up for the workshop using the school Gateway App. Please select your child, then follow Useful Links/News & Events/Parents Booking System.

The session will be available via zoom and a link will be sent to you on the day via email. Please email the office with any queries or concerns which will be forwarded on to me as appropriate.

Mrs T Gale- Early Years Leader