

"I am able to do all things by  
the one who strengthens me"

Philippians 4:13  
Lexham English Bible



Growing, Believing, Succeeding

11<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all well and coping in these strange times. You will have heard the Prime Minister's announcement last night that pupils in certain year groups will not be returning to school until June at the earliest. This means that there is no immediate change and online learning will continue for all pupils. I know a lot of you are still working and juggling work, home learning, meal times, shopping and general household jobs which can be extremely demanding, especially at these challenging times. I have put together a short newsletter which I hope you will find useful in supporting your child's learning.

### Daily Blogs

To try to make things easier and more consistent for online learning we are introducing daily blogs for each class, replacing several days worth of activities set at the start of the week. Class teachers will blog pupils before 9am each morning and explain the English and maths tasks that should be tackled that day. Teachers will also set a topic activity for pupils but this should only be completed after English and maths work. Wherever possible, teachers will only blog from one icon on the blog site so that pupils can quickly locate their tasks for the day. Teachers will continue to give children feedback and will post comments on their work. It would be extremely beneficial if parents could look at pupil's work before it is handed in to ensure that you are happy they have tried their best.

### How to blog

It is very easy to access the daily blogs. Once you have logged into Purple Mash go to the green world icon and click. This will bring up two options, one of which is shared blogs in a grey colour. Click on shared blogs and then you will see your classes' blog page. To send a blog to the teacher, children need to click on the green plus sign. Pupils can send photos of their work through the blog page as well if they wish using the icon with the sky and grass.

### White Rose Maths

White Rose Maths is an excellent online learning programme which I highly recommend you use with your child. Teachers will send a link each morning to the site, where pupils will be able to watch a short video with practice tasks. After this they will be asked to complete a worksheet which will be available on the Purple Mash blog. It is not necessary to print the worksheet off as pupils could look at the work on the screen and use paper to respond to the answers. Pupils are very welcome to take photos of their work and send it to their teacher. Please also encourage your child to contact their teacher if they need support or parents can contact me on the email below.

### Oxford Owl

Just a reminder, parents can access free e-books on the Oxford Owl website. Please see our Facebook page and website for more details and to access the link.

### Phoning Families

We feel that it is really important to stay in touch with all the families at our school during this very challenging time. It is our aim over the next week to try to have a chat with you to see if there is anything more we might do to support your child's learning and well being. Home schooling is very new to all of us and it's understandable if some of you are feeling isolated and overwhelmed. Do not hesitate to contact me by email should you need any help – by working together we can sort most things!

The recent spring weather has been lovely and I hope you have managed to spend some time with your family either in the garden or out on walks. I have noticed so many signs of new life recently from new lambs to goslings and ducklings. I am also delighted to inform you that Mrs Natalie Tompson, our Reception teacher, gave birth to a beautiful baby girl in April named Lily. Connecting with nature and cherishing new life gives us all hope for a positive future and a world where we can once again all be together growing, believing and succeeding in the wonderful community we share.

Kind regards,

Mrs Sarah Briggs  
Headteacher

headteacher@saledavys.derbyshire.sch.uk