



12th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Dhoon and Laxey Federation Home Learning Update

I trust that this letter finds you and your families safe and well at this time. Accompanying the letter is a new set of learning activities for each of our classes, providing a flavour of the types of learning that the children would have been participating in at school together with a newsletter from the class teachers. As always, our support package is entirely optional but we do hope that you and your children find the materials useful and engaging should you choose to use them.

Over the course of recent weeks, Mrs Shimmin, Mr Astin and myself have been reviewing our home learning approach and would like to share with you some slight changes to the way in which we have been working. Starting from today, we are going to email families directly with new learning activities when they are published, rather than relying on a message on Facebook to check our website, and we hope that you will find this helpful.

We have enabled access from our newly re-designed website to the Oak National Academy where you will find daily video lessons and online activities which we are happy to endorse. We suggest that the materials on this site could augment the activities we have already been providing and will continue to provide.

We have really enjoyed receiving examples of children's home learning and it is lovely to be able to share these with our school communities via our social media platforms and hope that you will continue to support this. However, we do recognise that not everyone accesses social media on a regular basis and that some families would prefer not to share their children's work in this way, so are therefore offering an alternative to this. Included within this letter is a Google email address for your child's class teacher(s), so that should you wish to, you are welcome to send examples of work directly to them. Again, this is entirely optional and there is, of course, no pressure to do so.

Class teachers will be pleased to receive examples of work and to provide a *short* comment to your child acknowledging their learning, but this won't necessarily be in the way of 'formal' marking. We hope that this new system will enable us to provide personalised feedback for your child and help them to maintain their link to their class teacher at this time. If you would like to email work through to class teachers, please be aware that they are currently redeployed into other roles and therefore might not be able to reply straight away. We will endeavour to reply within *two working days* but do ask for your understanding on this. Additional learning opportunities in the form of grids and websites will continue to be sent through to you on a regular basis via our Enquiries address, rather than through teachers' Gmail accounts.

Your child's teacher: sarahshimmin@online.sch.im suejaques@online.sch.im

We hope that these changes will prove useful and thank you both for your continued support and the valuable work you are undertaking with your children, we really do appreciate it.

Best wishes

Executive Headteacher: Maxim Kelly

Head of School (Dhoon): Sarah Shimmin

Head of School (Laxey): Craig Astin

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