



Beckley Church of England Primary School

Church Street, Beckley, Oxford, OX3 9UT • Tel: 01865 351416 • Email: office@beckleyschool.org
Website: www.beckleyschool.org • Headteacher: Mr Mark Szortowski

15th January 2021

Dear Parents

Happy New Year and welcome back to this new and very different term in Skylark Class. I would like to start by saying thank you for your kind and generous Christmas gifts at the end of last term- they were greatly appreciated. Since the start of this term, the children have been working really well with their home learning, participating fully and I feel very privileged to be their teacher and have them as my class. Thank you so much for your continued help and support with this process. I am very aware of the restrictions that the current pandemic has placed on teaching and learning but I will do my best to ensure that the children have access to a broad range of learning experiences in all aspects of the curriculum. Due to the nature of remote learning, some areas of the curriculum have had to be adjusted but for the time being, I would like to put you in the picture about what to expect as we move through this term.

For the foreseeable future during this period of remote learning, Skylark Class will have **Google Meets** at 9.20am, 10.40am and 1.30pm each day. The first Google Meet of each day will be an English lesson, the second will be a Maths lesson and the third will be an additional, optional session. During this final Google Meet of each day, I will first explain the afternoon lesson, then answer any questions that the children bring along about their learning from previously in the day. On Fridays, the final Google Meet will have a theme, where the children may bring along something that they want to share along the theme.

Outside of these Google Meets, I actively encourage the children to send questions to me, as and when they have them, via a private comment or the stream. This means that I can provide real-time feedback so that they can then make progress within the lesson, rather than waiting until the end. During Google Meets, please continue to remind your child to stay **“muted”** within the main part of the lesson, using the **“raise hand”** button when they have a question or something to add. Please also remind your child to **“turn in”** their work when they have finished. I am aware that remote learning means that the

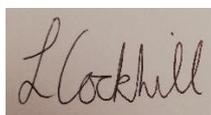
children have a lot of focussed screen-time so please reinforce to them that I encourage regular breaks and time when they can get fresh air outside. Due to the nature of this period of remote learning, additional homework will not be set until we return to school. However, please encourage your child to read regularly, practise their times tables and learn spellings from the list for their year group, when they have time or have finished an activity early.

In **English** this term, we will be looking at poetry, starting with image poetry, and moving on to classic poetry and looking at poetic form. After half term, we will be working on drama and classic fiction. In **Maths** this term, we will be developing our understanding of multiplication and division to begin with, before moving onto statistics. We will then start our fraction and decimals topic, which will continue after half term. Content will also include a **History** topic about Crime and Punishment, looking at how this has evolved over time. In **Science**, the children will enjoy topics on forces and magnets before the half term, then evolution and inheritance. Our **R.E.** topics start with looking at what it means for Christians if God is loving and holy, then Creation in Christianity after the half-term break. Other highlights include an **Art** topic about Central and South American Art and looking at weather and seasons in **French** lessons. Further information can be found on the curriculum section of the school website.

If you have any feedback about the remote learning experience or if you have any questions about your child's learning, please feel free to contact me by email (lcockhill@beckleyschool.org) and I will try to get back to you as soon as possible.

Many thanks again for your continued support and I look forward to a happy and successful term for the children in Skylarks class.

Best wishes



Laura Cockhill