



Longvernal Primary School Outdoor Learning Leaders

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"part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership"

Headteacher: Karen Bazeley

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Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a challenging week all round with the closure of the Key Stage 2 bubble owing to Covid. This letter is mainly to say a heartfelt **thank you** to you as parents, children and staff for the joint effort to try and ensure that every child has received an education this week; albeit not an ideal scenario. As a school we have felt very much supported by our parent/carer body which has really helped and is much appreciated. Please remember that we still adhere to our 'Open Door Policy' – I am still available through email or telephone for any concerns and, on most days, at the beginning and end of the day outside. Having reflected on the use of Google Classrooms with Key Stage 2, we feel that it would not be an appropriate platform for use with children in Key Stage 1 and Early Years. Therefore, in the event of having to shut one of these learning bubbles (which I sincerely hope will not happen), we will be using Seesaw for pupils' daily work.

Seesaw is easier for the children to use as the pupils can complete the work on the app and send it straight back to the teacher, who can respond with voice and written comments. It can be used on a pc, laptop, tablet or smartphone. We are in the process of ordering stylus pens for the younger children to 'write' with on screen. This will allow some fine motor skills continuity.

Key Stage 1 and Early Years children have been provided with a QR code, which is their password to the APP or website. This is stuck into their Reading Logs. The children will be introduced to Seesaw in school, so they are familiar with it. Chestnut and Oak classes have been set a colouring task as homework in order to familiarise themselves with the platform. Moving forwards, we anticipate using Seesaw for homework in Key Stage 1, as it should seamlessly tie in with what we are learning in class.

Google Classrooms, which has Google Meet facility, will continue to be used with Key Stage 2 and also minimally for Key Stage 1 and Early Years (in the event of closure) in order to do early morning and end of day meetings and activities.

In other news, we have re-scheduled the Diwali workshop to December 1st and although sadly we shall be unable to do our usual festive welcome to you as parents on site for a Christmas Dinner this year, the children will still have the opportunity to enjoy this on December 16th. A separate letter will be coming out about this.

We are building a community where learners have no ceilings to their aspirations and successes. Everyone is respected and loved in their own right.



Lastly, some happy news amid all the current doom and gloom. We would like to congratulate Miss. Dean who got married in October Half term and is now officially Mrs. Chilcott-Dean. We wish her and her husband well for the future.

Thank you for your continued support.

Stay safe and best wishes

Karen Bazeley
Headteacher

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