

The Pinner Park Po

Special
Edition



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Keep it Real!

We are so impressed with you all. This is an unprecedented, worldwide issue and we're tackling it positively, together.

We don't want any parent or child to feel stressed, overwhelmed or under pressure due to the new ways of working. It might be time for a reality check! Here's some thoughts...



- You are in charge. You know your child and your situation the best. You can decide how your child will engage with the resources provided, and any additional or different activities. It is your choice. There is nothing to feel guilty about.
- We are not setting up schools at home. This is distance learning at very short notice! We're all just trying our best to support one another to achieve this.
- This is odd for us too! We had little notice and we're doing our best – it's all we can expect of you too.
- If distance learning was easy, all the staff would be out of a job – it isn't perfect, so we don't expect it to be.
- You can't be expected to help with distance learning and to work from home at the same time. If you're trying that, then you deserve a medal! Just do your best in your situation and try and strike a balance.
- We aim to recommend some good resources which sit alongside our weekly 'Learning Projects'. You'll see hundreds and thousands more on social media. You can choose how you select your child's learning – our advice is to stick to those recommended by school. Not everything out there is helpful!
- In school, children do not work intensively for 7 hours. They have different types of lessons, break times, group discussions, opportunities to play, and opportunities to read. Make sure your child has the chance to play with Lego, to read books, to bake a cake, to dig up some dirt, to take exercise, or anything else that you think is OK – this is all learning!
- Try and do some stuff together – social interaction whilst social distancing is important!
- Appropriate to their age, encourage your child to do some bits independently – in class there are 30 children and one teacher – the children are used to resolving their own problems and getting on with it!

There's plenty of advice in this newsletter and on our website which we hope you find useful. But remember this... You are doing your best and your best is good enough. You are caring for your children and keeping them safe. Give yourself a break. We are in this together and we can do this!

We're here to help. Get in touch if you need any support.

Best wishes,

Nick Waldron

Headteacher

Benefit-Related Free School Meals



If your child is eligible for a benefit-related free school meal, we sent a text message and/or email message to you yesterday.

Please let us know if you didn't receive your message.

Thanks to everyone who has selected their preferred supermarket. The vouchers are now being processed and will be sent to you by text or email in due course. Thanks for your patience.

Please note that this does not apply to all those children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (who usually get a free meal) unless parents have registered due to receiving the qualifying benefits.

We have had a few enquiries from parents whose children may be eligible for a benefit-related free school meal. We have sent the email and text to all those who are currently known to be eligible.

To find out whether your child qualifies for free school meals, and hence whether the school would receive additional funding, please fill in the details requested on the [Free School Meals Eligibility Checker](#). If you would prefer, we can check eligibility on your behalf. Please ask our school office team if you would like us to run the check for you.

A Certificate of Eligibility is available through [the website](#) for any child eligible for a free school meal that is attending a school in England. The Certificate of Eligibility should be shared with school.

Keeping in Touch – Live Chat and Year Group Emails

We have a new 'live chat' facility on our school website. A number of parents have already used this – we hope you are finding it useful! We will try and keep this open as much as possible, enabling you to speak directly to a member of staff about anything.

In addition, we also have some year group email addresses. If you, or your child, have any questions about home learning, if you need a password for something, or if you need some ideas, simply send a message and a member of staff from the year group team will get back to you.



The email addresses are:

nursery@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk

reception@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk

year1@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk

year2@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk

year3@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk

year4@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk

year5@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk

year6@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk

Please use office@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk for any general enquiries.

This Week's Community Challenge

Each week we want to set you a challenge which will help you to keep in touch with everyone. It's a simple one this week – we just want a photo of you doing your home learning.

You might be joining in some physical activity with Joe Wicks, working on the computer, reading a book, doing a science experiment or anything else!



We'll add the photo to our online gallery so please make sure you have permission from Mum or Dad before sending one in.

Send your photos to our new email address: share@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk.

Thanks to everyone who has already sent in some photos. We'll try and keep adding them to the website through the week. You can see the pictures here:

<http://pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk/news-blog/home-learning-in-action>



PROTECT THE NHS

 **save lives**

Support for Home Learning – GREAT RESOURCES FOR MATHS!



We'll try and give you as much support as possible over the coming weeks.

Here are some recommended resources which you may find of use. Remember you can use any resources to supplement the learning packs on our website. We'll try not to overwhelm you with hundreds of resources – just a few each day which we know are helpful.

Today we are focusing on Mathematics. **The following resources are really good!**

White Rose Maths – Home Learning

White Rose Maths create resources and provide training. At Pinner Park, and in many thousands of schools, the White Rose Maths materials are at the heart of our maths planning, so we know that the resources follow our curriculum really closely and the methods used will match with those taught in school.



The team at White Rose are busy creating daily maths activities, to be worked through in order. If possible, it would be amazing if every child could work through one lesson each day. This will keep your child up to date with the curriculum. Don't worry if you can't do one every day – just work through each step in order (because each day builds on the last).

There are activity sheets which can be printed. If you are unable to print, just show them on a screen and the children can work them out on paper – no problem!

For each lesson:

- Click on the set of lessons for your child's year group.
- Watch the video (either on your own or with your child).
- Find a calm space where your child can work for about 20-30 minutes.
- Use the video guidance to support your child as they work through a lesson.

These resources are free to use. <https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/>



I See Maths

If you want any additional maths, Gareth Metcalfe is running some lessons which also tie in really well with how we teach mathematics in school. These are free to access. <http://www.iseemaths.com>

Numberblocks – Ideal for Younger Children

Numberblocks, first broadcast in January 2017, is a pre-school BBC television series aimed at introducing children to early number. The programmes are ideal for children in Reception and Year 1. We recommend starting at series 1, episode 1 and watching one each day. They are brilliant! They also support the way in which early maths is taught in school



<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b08bzfnh/numberblocks?page=2>