

The Pinner Park Poet

Special
Edition



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Smile!

We have missed the very many smiling faces in school. Children bring the school to life and it has been lovely to welcome back more children to school over recent weeks.

It takes 60 muscles to frown, and only 13 muscles to smile - all the more reason to smile!



*A smile costs nothing but gives much.
It enriches those who receive it without making poorer those who give it.
It takes but a moment, but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever.
None is so rich or mighty that they can get along without it,
and no-one is so poor that they cannot be made rich by it.*

*A smile creates happiness in the home, fosters goodwill in business,
and is the countersign of friendship.
It brings rest to the weary, cheerfulness to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad,
and it is nature's best antidote in times of trouble.
Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen,
for it is something that is of no value to anyone unless it is given away.
Some people are too tired to give you a smile.
Give them one of yours, as no-one needs a smile so much as those who have no more to give.*

Best wishes,

Nick Waldron

Headteacher

Benefit-Related Free School Meals Update

Free school meal **VOUCHERS**

We will now be placing orders for vouchers on Fridays. This is so that we can make the necessary adjustments for those children who have access to a free school meal whilst in school.

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](#)

Wider Opening of School

We have written to our Year 5 parents to invite children to return to school from Monday.

Unfortunately we do not have the capacity to bring back any further year groups into school. We know that this will be a great disappointment to many parents and children – we do wish that we could accommodate everyone.



Some parents have asked us about September. At this stage, we know no more than you and we await further guidance. We know that it is the Government's ambition to get every child back to school by September, but we do not have any further information at this stage.

Year 6 Leavers Hoodies - REMINDER



We've sent information to all our Year 6 parents about the leavers hoodies for this year. To place an order visit:

www.mapac.com/education/parents/uniform/pinnerparkschools

Orders must be received by Friday 26th June. We won't be able to accept any late orders.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Times Tables Rockstars – London Rocks 2020 – Starts on Monday!

As part of our commitment to make maths exciting and high profile in our school, we are taking part in a friendly competition involving schools from Greater London from Monday 22nd June to Friday 26th June. It's all done online through Times Tables Rockstars (web or app).

For every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, your child will earn their class a point. The Times Tables Rock Stars platform will calculate the class average and we'll find the winners.

So... get in lots of practice ready for next week!



KEEP UP TO DATE ON OUR WEBSITE
<http://pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk>



Support for Home Learning – UPDATE



Thank you for your commitment to home learning. We know that this is a very difficult challenge for all of us and we really appreciate all your efforts.

We are evaluating our home learning as we go along in order to make it as helpful as possible to parents and children. In today's newsletter we're providing a summary of our support for home learning – all the information in one place!

Our Current Approach to Home Learning

About our Learning Projects

From the start of the school closure period, we have asked our teachers to write a set of home learning projects which can be completed by your child during the school closure. In doing so, we have drawn on the work of other schools, companies and organisations (and, in the spirit of collaboration, we have shared our work with others).



In creating our Learning Projects, we fully acknowledge that they cannot replace the quality of learning your child receives at school. However, our complete focus has been on creating a set of projects that all children can access to maximise their learning whilst at home.

What are the aims of the Learning Projects?

- To create age specific learning opportunities for our children.
- To create a resource for parents that is easy to access and use - the focus is on parents being able to help deliver the content or children accessing it independently.
- Key learning linked to the National Curriculum.
- To enable children to continue with their learning at home during school closure.
- To enable families to focus on a joint topic and theme to promote family-wide learning – by using school-wide themes each week.
- To provide structure and focus to each day that the closure continues.
- To centralise online learning resources and links into an easy-to-manage format for families.

How should parents use the Learning Projects?

The Learning Projects on the school website are updated each week. There is a special link on our home page, directly to our home learning area. You can select the year group your child is in.

The aim is for you to complete a minimum of two hours of learning a day with your child but we have created our learning projects to be as flexible as possible – so that parents can do more if they wish, and at a time and pace which suits their family.

You can mix these projects with the other activities linked on our school website, and also continue to use our usual online resources such as Times Tables Rockstars.

Signposting Online Learning from other providers

In addition to our own learning projects, we have highlighted some resources from other providers which give access to high quality home learning activities. There is some further information about these below, as a reminder. We are also introducing you to the Pak National Academy.

Clear communication

We've tried really hard over the school closure period to keep in touch with parents and children. We have sent newsletters home more frequently, set up year group email addresses, added a 'live chat' facility on our website, provided information through our social media channel, introduced 'Pinner Park Online', added content to our school website, and made phone calls home.

We know that none of this replaces the daily face-to-face contact with school staff but we do encourage you to get in touch if you need our support with anything.

A mix of online and offline resources

We are conscious that not everyone has access to the internet, computing devices or printers at home. Our learning packs provide a mix of activities.

In addition, we have recommended the following paid-for resources for anyone who would appreciate some further paper-based activities:

Power Maths Home Edition

Power Maths is a mathematics scheme which closely follows the White Rose Maths approach. The publisher has produced some special home editions for use during lockdown. There are 40 lessons in each book, so this will be plenty for 8 weeks' worth of maths. This could be used as an alternative to the White Rose Online maths, or as a supplement. You can order the books here:

<https://resources.whiterosemaths.com/product-category/power-maths/parent-school-order/>

CGP Books

CGP books are written in a student-friendly style and closely match the curriculum. There a wide range of books, so make sure you look at the books which are appropriate for your child's year group. We would suggest you use some of the practice books – we wouldn't want children to be sitting and doing tests!

You can order the books here: <https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/resources/studying-from-home-during-coronavirus>

Adapting as time goes on

We started our school closure work by producing the learning packs. Since then we've tried to adapt the information as we go along. In response to our discussions with parents we have broken the learning projects into daily activities for some subjects, and we've seized on new learning materials as they have become available. We've added further links, and also some STEM activities to each week's learning.

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What's coming up – further adaptations

There are just over four weeks of the school term remaining and we know that for some students this will mean four weeks of home learning without the opportunity to be in school.

From next week, there will be a short Monday morning video for each year group, introduced by teaching staff, which will highlight the learning for the week. We'll also be asking children to submit one or two tasks to their year group teachers so that we can take a look at the learning you are doing.

Lots of children are already sharing their learning through DB Primary and the year group emails, but we want to extend this to every pupil.



Daily Phonics Lessons for Reception and Year 1

Daily phonics lesson for children in Reception and Year 1 are available by clicking on [Letters and Sounds for home and school](#). These lessons are funded and approved by the Department for Education.

There are three sets of daily lessons to choose from and we suggest your child starts with one set of lessons most suitable to their year group. If you're not sure which lessons your child should watch or your child finds the lessons too difficult, then please contact your child's teachers by sending an email to the year group email address.

New phonics lessons are uploaded every day, Monday to Friday. After upload, each lesson will then be available to watch at any time during the summer term. They are YouTube based so can be watched on any device.

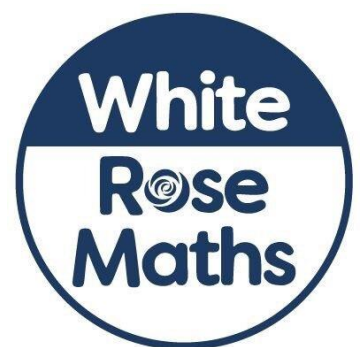
After watching each lesson, we encourage you to read aloud to your child and, if your child has reading books from school, listen to your child read. More information about phonics and how to help your child can be found in the [video guide](#) as well as on the [phonics page of our school website](#).



White Rose Mathematics

We use [White Rose Mathematics](#) as the basis of our maths learning in school. The team at White Rose have produced daily mathematics lessons which we have shared through our learning projects.

We are a 'premium' school which means that we can share the worksheets activities with you. These are being sent through School Ping each week so that you have the activities to link to each video. There are additional tasks, linked to White Rose Maths, available on the BBC Bitesize website.



BBC Bitesize Daily Lessons

[BBC Bitesize](#) has been recommended on many of our newsletters, because it is so good. In addition to the usual content on BBC Bitesize, you are able to access regular daily lessons in English and Maths, as well as other core subjects, in an expanded version of the website and also on special programmes broadcast on BBC iPlayer and BBC Red Button.



The content of these lessons is backed up by new videos, practice tests, educational games and articles. Mums and dads can get advice on how to teach anyone who is home-schooling and the Bitesize website also has guides for pupils with SEN (special educational needs).

The Oak National Academy

The [Oak National Academy](#) is an online service to help teachers and families access educational materials during the school closures. It has been funded by the DfE to provide a national service of online lessons.

The content available will prove useful for parents to engage children in learning on topics covering all areas of the curriculum. The Oak National Academy lessons are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on their online website.



Every week there many hours of lessons for students with three hours of work for primary school children each day. Families can access the website via mobile phones, tablets, laptops, standalone computers, or even 'smart' televisions that can access the internet. Each lesson is an hour long. Activities include quizzes, teacher-led video explanations and worksheets.

For primary children, lessons cover the core subjects of English and maths. There are also lessons for modern foreign languages, science, geography and history, taught through a topic-based curriculum.

A public health poster from the NHS. On the left, a young woman is looking at her smartphone. The background is blue. In the top left corner is the HM Government logo. The main text reads 'CORONAVIRUS SELF-ISOLATE WHEN ALERTED' in large, bold, white and yellow letters. Below this is the URL 'nhs/coronavirus or call 119'. In the top right corner is the NHS logo and the text 'Test and Trace'. In the bottom right corner is a yellow and black hazard-style box with the text 'STAY ALERT CONTROL THE VIRUS SAVE LIVES'.