

# STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

January 2021



Well here we go again! After the last minute decisions by the government to close schools and only open to priority groups, we now find ourselves in another lockdown similar to the one in March. It has been a huge rush to switch to remote learning but we feel we are getting there with our improved offer. It heartens me to hear such positive feedback already from parents that children seem to know what they are doing this time and this is causing less stress to parents who are also possibly finding themselves working from home!

My special thanks goes to the staff who worked so industriously last Tuesday to be ready in the space of a few hours, handing out learning packs, reading books and our new Chrome books. Mrs Pear, our new Office Manager only started her new job with us on Monday and had to deal with such a fast-moving situation over the course of her first 48 hours with us. She deserves a special mention and I am sure I can speak on behalf of the whole community in thanking her for the calm way she has been running the admin side of the school and how brilliantly she has been supporting us all in this situation.

Finally, the period of time prior to this gave us a good chance to train children in remote learning and now the time has arrived for when we must use it. The children have risen to the occasion magnificently. You should be so proud of our children and the efforts they

are already putting into their work at home. We will celebrate the work done at home in some shape or form, so the work being done must be of a high standard. I gave the children a 'pep talk' in my first online assembly of the term and I am confident that Stogursey children will continue to grow throughout this difficult time, learning in a different way.

I hope in the February newsletter, we might find the vaccine rollout has started to really kick in and we might know more about the route out of this and back to some normality. Keep up the good work.

As ever, I am always available via email at [gtucker@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:gtucker@educ.somerset.gov.uk) if you have any questions, comments or concerns. For all learning-related enquiries, it is Miss Day to contact and I am sure she will be happy to help.

Stay at Home- Protect the NHS- Save Lives

Mr Tucker



## STAFF NEWS

We would like to give a warm welcome to our new Office Manager, Alison Pear, who started with us at the beginning of term. Alison did have a couple of training days with us during the last half term and she is looking forward to meeting all the children soon. Welcome to the Stogursey Team!

## LEARNING DURING LOCKDOWN

By now, you should be all well away with Remote Learning. Teachers are working hard to provide live feedback and marking. If scores on quizzes are not to

# STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

our Stogursey high standards, there are chances to have another look at the work and redo bits in light of feedback. Teachers will contact you if this is this case. In total, over the course of a typical day, your child should be doing 3 hours of core learning (English, Maths and another subject set by a teacher) and up to another hour on reading, times tables and Joe Wicks' PE sessions (this starts on Monday). All information on accessing Remote Learning is in the packs sent out last week.

## Children in Priority Groups

The school opens each day from 8.55am and staff will be leading this in pairs. The children do not need to wear school uniform. Please come to the front door to enter the building if you deem your child to be in a priority group. The general rule this time is if there is an adult at home, then the children should stay at home. Our aim is to minimise the numbers of children and staff coming into the building at one time. We thank you for your cooperation in this.

## Phone Calls

Over time, we will build up our online presence through whole class socials, storytimes and assemblies. We want to spend this initial period of time making online learning a great success. Teachers will be phoning up to check in on families regularly but some children will be getting phone calls from our Teaching Assistants, 2-3 times a week. This is to coach specific children and check in with how they are getting on. As part of this, the TAs will ask your child to do a little reading from their reading book down the phone. We hope this is ok and we want you to see this as a supportive measure. In line with safeguarding rules, the number will appear as an unknown number.

As ever, you can email teachers if you have questions or concerns. We are here to help. Our aim in this lockdown is to have improved our Remote Learning offer and to support children both academically and emotionally to be successful. We will also be having a big celebration of lockdown work when we return so

children must understand that high standards of effort and presentation is required.

Remember, you all did a fantastic job last time and we are sure you will be fantastic again.

## **CHROMEBOOKS**

We have another 8 on order and we understand the government are making even more available. The 20 provided by West Somerset Opportunity Area are now in circulation and playing their part in making remote learning a success. If you haven't got one and feel your child would benefit from having one, then please contact Miss Day (our Remote Learning lead) and she will add your child's name to a waiting list for this. If your child has a PlayStation or an Xbox, work can be accessed on these devices as well. Miss Day has already sent details out about this.

## **TUTORING THIS TERM**

I mentioned in my December newsletter about a National Tutoring Programme. This has been postponed. I will inform parents when the Programme is ready to begin.

## **NEWS FROM AROUND SCHOOL**

### **WELLIES**

In order to make the most of our school grounds and get the children out in the fresh air even when the ground is wet, we are

asking that all children have wellies or a spare pair of old shoes that they can use to go out to the field. We have wellie racks for storage and shoes can be kept in a bag inside the building. Please name all that comes in to avoid any chance to confusion and sharing. It would also be a good idea to send your child in with a spare pair of socks in case they get wet feet.



Thank you if you have already provided wellies or old shoes. If you need the wellies to go home at the weekend please ensure your children are aware of their need to collect them on a Friday.

# STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

## CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS:

Please see below the latest National Restrictions in place for England. This is to help to protect the NHS and keep us all safe.



**ENGLAND LOCKDOWN**  
**STAY AT HOME**

THE NEW VARIANT OF CORONAVIRUS IS SPREADING FAST.  
WE ALL NEED TO PLAY OUR PART TO STOP THE SPREAD.

<b>▶ LEAVING HOME</b> You must not leave, or be outside of your home or garden, except for a very limited set of exemptions e.g. to shop for basic necessities, exercise, go to work if you cannot do so from home, or to escape risk of harm.	<b>▶ WORK AND BUSINESS</b> Everyone must work from home unless they are unable to do so.	<b>▶ WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS</b> Funerals of up to 30 people permitted. Weddings up to 6 people permitted in exceptional circumstances. Wakes and other linked ceremonial events of up to 6 permitted.
<b>▶ MEETING OTHERS</b> You cannot leave your home to meet socially with anyone, except with your household or support bubble (if eligible to form one). Stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household or support bubble.	<b>▶ EDUCATION</b> Early years settings open. Primary and secondary schools and colleges move to remote provision except for vulnerable children and children of critical workers. Most university students to move to remote learning.	<b>▶ PLACES OF WORSHIP</b> Places of worship can remain open and communal worship is permitted, but you must not mix with those outside your household or support bubble.
<b>▶ EXERCISE</b> You may exercise on your own, with your household or support bubble, or with one person from another household (when on your own). Stay 2 metres apart from anyone not in your household or support bubble.	<b>▶ LEISURE AND SPORTING FACILITIES</b> Closed, with limited exceptions.	<b>▶ TRAVELLING</b> You must stay at home. If you do leave home for a very limited set of exemptions, you should stay local in the village, town, or part of the city where you live where possible. Do not travel abroad unless an exemption applies.
<b>▶ BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS</b> Hospitality closed aside from sales by takeaway (until 11pm), click-and-collect, drive-through or delivery. Alcohol cannot be purchased through takeaway or click-and-collect from hospitality venues.	<b>▶ ACCOMMODATION</b> Closed, with limited exceptions.	<b>▶ CLINICALLY EXTREMELY VULNERABLE</b> Shielding reintroduced across England. You should not travel to work, school, college or university and should limit the time you spend outside the home. You should only go out for medical appointments, exercise or if it is essential.
<b>▶ RETAIL</b> Essential shops can open. Non-essential retail must close and can only run click-and-collect and delivery.	<b>▶ PERSONAL CARE</b> Closed.	<b>▶ CARE HOME VISITS</b> Visits can take place with arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pools, or behind windows. Close-contact indoor visits are not allowed. No visits will be permitted in the event of an outbreak but end of life visits are permitted in all circumstances.
<b>▶ ENTERTAINMENT</b> Closed.	<b>▶ OVERNIGHT STAYS</b> You must not stay overnight away from home. Limited exceptions apply e.g. to stay with your support bubble.	

**STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES**

For more information go to:  
[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus)

## DIARY DATES

Newsletters will be sent out in the second week of every month. Please see the website for more information.

These are the dates for this term. We try our best not to change them but sometimes circumstances require us to. These are the dates for this term. We try our best not to change them but sometimes circumstances require us to.

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February End of Half Term  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February Inset Day  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February Start of New Half Term

## HOME LEARNING IDEAS:



Twinkl is free again! Click the following link – not only does it show you how to access lots of super resources for free, it also includes, short help videos on how to complete a PDF resource without printing!

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/blog/digital-learning-in-2021-were-ready-when-you-are-parents>



CBBC will broadcast three hours of primary school programmes from 9am every weekday. They will include

BBC Bitesize Daily, as well as other much-loved shows with an educational twist, such as Our School, Celebrity Supply Teacher, Horrible Histories and more! Have a look at what's on this week:  
<https://bam.files.bbci.co.uk/bam/live/content/zjbstrd/pdf>



Have a go... Blob Opera!

<https://artsandculture.google.com/experiment/blob-opera/AAHWrq360NcGbw>

Just for fun... Create your own opera inspired song with Blob Opera - no music skills required! A machine learning experiment by David Li in collaboration with Google Arts & Culture

## TERMLY TROPHY

The Termly Trophy goes to Ryan Reid for his effort in all of his studies over the last term. Well done Ryan!