

Dear parents and carers,

Just a quick catch up newsletter as to where we are with school reopening and provision for your child(ren). The Trust are working extremely hard to put return to school plans in place and we meet regularly to discuss how this can best be done safely and effectively. We are, of course, still waiting on government guidelines but behind the scenes, are planning for different ways that we can slowly return to school in a phased manner. Please bear with me, I will keep you updated as much as I can in the coming weeks.

Remote learning

Class Dojo is working well for everyone – I want to thank you all again for the engagement we have seen this far. It has been uplifting to see all the photographs, pieces of work and smiling faces of the Lydford pupils! There are some examples in our gallery this week. The following link has advice for parents on continuing learning at home during this time:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

One of the best ideas from this advice is about structuring your day. You should try to make sure that children:

- get up and go to bed at the same time each day
- have regular meal times
- have regular breaks
- make time to be active – children are used to regular play at lunch and break times

Also, although learning set involves the use of a digital device, there are useful tips on getting the balance right:

Reducing screen time

Digital devices are not the only way to learn. Manage screen time with a timer and break up screen time by getting your child to:

- use books and other printed materials that their school has provided or that you have at home
- write by hand – try asking them to complete work by hand, write a diary, a summary of things they have done each day or 'to do' lists
- be active and get away from the screen regularly – see these [physical activity resources](#) for primary school children
- stop using digital devices at least an hour before bed



Transition EYFS/ Year 6

Our EYFS new intake will have received a pack to complete and some information on how transition might work in the event of further school closure. We are hoping for the normal transition sessions in Class 1 in the second half of term but need to plan for both eventualities at this stage. Similarly, we are working with Mr Brett at the College to devise a possible virtual transition plan for Year 6s. Once we know more about return to school, this plan can be realised. We understand that this is a trying time for our Year 6 pupils and hope that we will be able to make transition as seamless as we can next half term. More details to follow soon.

I hope you all log on to Class Dojo to see the celebration assembly of some excellent examples of home learning this week.

VE Day bank holiday

Friday is a bank holiday and so I have asked staff not to work but to take a well-deserved break as they are all working exceptionally hard to provide home learning. As it is VE Day, we will be pausing for a one minute silence at 11am. There are some interesting resources for children to celebrate using the following links:

<https://www.goodtoknow.co.uk/family/ve-day-celebrations-in-lockdown-540015>

[English Heritage](#) has created a 'history at home' pack which includes recipes, dance steps and popular songs from the time as well as facts about VE Day and pictures.

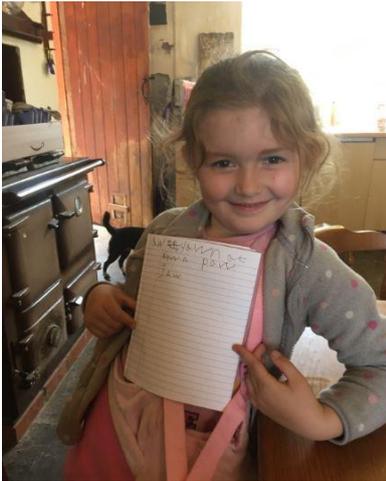
With warmest wishes on this long, sunny weekend,

Deirdre Petersen

Acting Head of School



Home Learning Gallery



Great phonics practice Megan



Harry's delicious baking



Excellent focused reading Andrew



Jodie working hard



Brilliant team work Wren



Leah & Emily on their daily walk



Bertie enjoying a film night





DEVON YOUTH
PARLIAMENT



LOGO AND POSTER COMPETITION!

Get your creative talents recognised! Your design could be the face of our Climate Campaign-'Greener Devon', and you could receive some amazing environmental goodies! We would like you to design a logo and/or a poster. We will pick one overall logo as a winner, and one poster from EACH age group(0-6, 7-11, 12-15, 16-18)



For the logo...



- Must be a circular design
- Must include our campaign name, Greener Devon

For the poster...

- We're looking for a poster to raise awareness of the environment and of what a 'Greener Devon' looks like to you

**Please submit your entries to
greenerdevon@gmail.com or post on
Instagram, Twitter or Facebook with the
hashtag #greenerdevoncomp by May 29th at
midnight**



A Message from Tavistock Library

I am writing on behalf of Tavistock Library to tell you about some of the ways we can help to support families during the current lockdown situation.

Our online resources

We have a range of free resources that all library members can access online:

- Download and stream free eBooks, eAudioBooks and eMagazines, with more than 3,500 titles on [Overdrive](#) (eBooks and eAudiobooks), including a range of 'beginner reads' for children in the early stages of learning to read, and 1,000 unlimited use eAudiobooks through [RB Digital Devon](#)
- A selection of eMagazines are available on [RB Digital Devon](#)
- A range of eAudiobooks via [BorrowBox](#)
- Online reference resources at [Devon](#) Libraries including AncestryUK
- Fun online content and live streaming events via social media. Check out our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/TavistockLibrary/> for more information
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Ensuring all children and families can access our online services

All children and families that already have library membership at one of our public libraries will automatically be able to access these services. If you want to try and ensure that ALL children in your school can access them we have arranged for a new way for schools to register children. Children can be individually registered by teachers on our [Devon Libraries website](#). You can do this on the children's behalf. For under 16s it will come up with a guarantor screen, but it is absolutely fine for teachers to act as guarantors and the school address can be input as the guarantor's address. As soon as you have registered each child you will be issued with a number which will start UNREG - the child can then use this number straight away for our online services and get access immediately. You can register as many children as you like in this way, or you can pass these details on to families for them to register themselves. If anyone has any difficulty with this please do email us and we will do our best to help.

Summer Reading Challenge

At this time of year we would normally be arranging to come into schools to tell children all about this year's Summer Reading Challenge. The Reading Agency are currently working on plans for how the Challenge will run this year bearing in mind that we do not yet know if libraries will be open in time for the summer. What we do know is that the Challenge will definitely be going ahead but probably mainly online, and that the theme will be 'Silly Squad' – an opportunity to get children reading lots of fantastic funny books! We will let you know more details when we have them.

Local events from Tavistock Library

We would like to invite all teachers, parents and carers to visit and 'like' our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/TavistockLibrary/>. Here you will find useful and interesting information, live events such as Storytime, Bounce and Rhyme and other activities.



We are continuing to encourage children to read and enjoy books with **BookTrack**. Children can continue (or even start) their Book Track journey earning stickers and badges by sending their comments on their favourite characters in the books and the best parts of the stories through a parent/carer or teacher's email to tavistock.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk. A member of staff will respond and we welcome pictures from children inspired by the books as well.

Many thanks for your continued support during this difficult time. We are very keen to help ensure that children are able to continue enjoying and developing their reading, and have access to as many helpful resources as possible. Please do get in touch if you think we can help further in any way.

Kind regards

Jan Horrell

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