

# Brookwood Primary News



Friday 17th April 2020

Issue 28

I hope this finds you all safe and well, and that you and your children have managed to have a rest over Easter and have enjoyed the weather. While staff enjoyed a restful two weeks, we were very appreciative of the chance to switch off and spend time at home, as we know that so many in our community continue to work and provide for us.

Easter learning was sent home before the break and I hope that it was enjoyed and appreciated. Please may I remind you that the work is and will continue to be optional; the wellbeing of you and your children will always come first.

As promised, we have reviewed our approach to home learning and I would like to explain our amended aims and plans:

#### Aims:

- Make children smile and excited to learn at home
- Prioritise wellbeing
- To stay connected with children and families
- Provide new and varied opportunities for children
- Provide optional work and flexibility to all families

#### Plans:

- By Friday 24th April, all children will be set up with a 'Seesaw' account. This will be an online platform or smartphone/tablet app which allows teachers to communicate learning to families; more details will follow separately
- Our Facebook Page will be used daily to communicate the following: Assemblies, music lessons, fitness classes, storytime, daily challenges and much more. Please like our page as many of the items posted will only be available to those who have liked the page
- Children will continue to receive privilege awards and star of the week certificates but they will be sent to you via email
- Our home learning email address ([homelearning@brookwood.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:homelearning@brookwood.surrey.sch.uk)) will be monitored throughout each day and all emails will receive a response from your class teacher or a member of the team
- You should expect to receive a phone call from a member of staff once a week
- In addition to home learning, each week will have a particular theme to help engage your children. Next week will be a problem solving themed week
- Times Table Rock Stars and Bug Club will continue to be available. Please email [homelearning@brookwood.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:homelearning@brookwood.surrey.sch.uk) if you require passwords or want us to review the challenge levels for your child
- We will give each class an example of a daily routine for your child but this will only act as a guide

We will continue to review our approach and listen to your feedback. I look forward to an exciting week of Problem Solving next week (see page 2 of the newsletter for more details!) - I hope this will be a really engaging way to kick off the new half-term of home learning!

David Gunning  
Head of School

## Problem Solving Week 2020

Despite school closure, this year's problem solving week is going to be **BIGGER** and **BETTER** than ever! We are going to **multiply** your love for maths, **add** some exciting challenges and **take away** any anxiety towards numbers! It is vital that you like our Facebook Page to access lots of the learning but we will also be emailing information.

Here is a taste of what to expect:

Monday: Maths Assembly uploaded on Facebook—this will include a request to start displaying numbers in your windows at home. We will introduce our whole school problem where each child will become a detective for the week to help solve a mystery! Other problem solving activities emailed over to you!

Tuesday: A parent challenge (which your children can help with) will be sent to you and you will be given a shape trail activity to do through your daily exercise!

Wednesday: Dice games and a maths at home photo competition. An outdoor number hunt! Maths 'joke of the day' competition.

Thursday: A cooking challenge and an episode of countdown numbers. Times Table Rock Stars challenge day!

Friday: Maths multi-day! Dress your children in something mathematical and send in your photos! The staff will be posting their photos on Facebook and through our newsletter!



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## Birthdays

If your child is celebrating a birthday during the school closure then please send an email into the school office on the day (or closest day if on a weekend or holiday). We would love to send a birthday message through a video or virtual birthday card!

## Times Table Rock Stars

Times Table Rock Stars is fantastic resource available for all children to use and is a brilliant way of learning and practising times tables at home. From my experience as a Year 6 teacher, the ability to recall times tables is so important and it is such a valuable skill.

We suggest all children spending 15 minutes a day on Times Table Rock Stars which can be found at <https://www.trockstars.com>

If you haven't received your login or have any questions then please contact the school office team at [office@brookwood.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@brookwood.surrey.sch.uk)

## Bug Club

Bug Club is an online reading tool that the children will be familiar with. All children have been allocated books to their currently assessed level. The programme has been set to automatic, meaning if a child reads all the books from their current band they will automatically move up to the next level of challenge. In addition, there is a read to me option available on the KS1 level books.

The information is below and if you have any questions at all then please contact [david.gunning@brookwood.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:david.gunning@brookwood.surrey.sch.uk)

<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login?c=0&l=0>

### Login details:

username: 1st four letters of 1st name, 1st four letters of surname eg. John Smith would be johnsmit

If the name is shorter than four letters just use those letters eg. Jim Smith would be jimsmit

You need to then enter the password and school code that have been provided previously.

## FACEBOOK! - PLEASE GIVE US A LIKE!

Please find and 'like' us by searching: Brookwood Primary School

We will be updating the page a lot more as a way of communicating to families. Can I encourage you to share this page with each other so it can be a really positive way to communicate?



## Guitar and Ukulele Lessons

Charlie Tottman, who is our fantastic guitar and ukulele teacher, is still available for lessons while school is closed. Lessons would be delivered online and Charlie would be delighted to talk to you more if it is something you are interested in. Please email the school office if you are interested. Charlie will also be working hard to produce music activities and learning at home to keep music alive at school!