




Dear Parents and Carers

What a week! Usually when I write that it is because we have had lots of trips, visitors and activities happening in school. This week has been quite the opposite, but I am as impressed as ever by the learning our children are doing and the work of our staff.

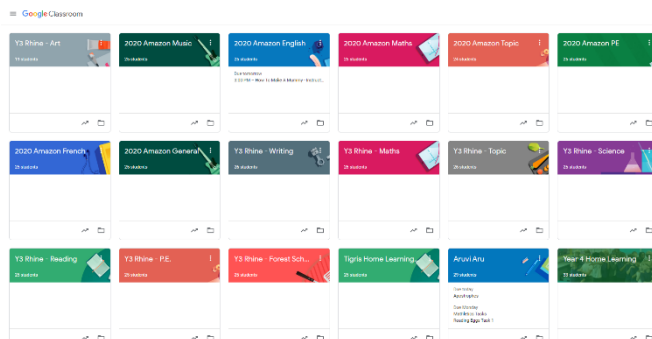
Home Learning

We know that this has been a very different week and everyone is getting used to being mostly at home. Do not worry if you haven't completed the tasks set by the teachers! We are not expecting children to go back and catch up either – we just want to make sure there is enough to keep them busy and to help you with creating some sort of routine when you are ready to do that. Let them do the tasks that engage them and take it from there. We don't expect children to be glued to a screen either or using your work laptop all day! Please let them log in at least once a day to say hello and to find out what tasks have been set for them... mostly these can then be completed on paper, whiteboards, the backs of cereal boxes or whatever you can find! If you are printing out and want to avoid using the sheets up you could pop it in a plastic wallet so that your child uses a whiteboard pen and can then re-use the sheet another time? If you have run out of paper or essential school supplies then please let us know and we may be able to leave some in the foyer for collection.

Reception Class are using Tapestry where Miss Coulter posts as  Home Learning with videos explaining learning tasks and reading stories. Parents can comment privately on their own child's profile or publicly to the class on the Home Learning profile.

Year One are sending emails from year1@shireoak.online to all the parents in the class. These have ideas of tasks to do and links to the teachers reading stories, etc. on YouTube (please use parental supervision). Parents can reply to that email address to share what their children have been up to.

Years Two to Six are using Google Classroom. Each child has their own @shireoak.online email address which gives them access to Google Classroom, Meet, Hangout, etc. Teachers are posting tasks and ideas in these 'classes' and children can upload their work in return. Photos of work on paper are, of course, fine!



I am still popping into children's 'virtual' classrooms to see what they are up to, but as they can't come to my office to show me **good work** I am very happy for this to be **emailed to me**. This can be anything they are proud of... hopefully including doing jobs at home for the family and learning things like how to tie shoelaces, change bedcovers and cook food. I may even be looking for some SuperStar nominations for an assembly next week. (Currently testing the technology for that one!)

Online Safety

I have been very impressed so far with the way that our children are conducting themselves online. For many of them this will be quite a new experience and, for children below Year 4, not one they have spent lots of time practising in school. They should all know our e-safety principles though, and most should know the actions for zip it, block it and flag it. We feel it is safer for our children to be 'chatting' in our shireoak.online world rather than on other social media but please be aware that teachers may not catch every single comment made. Just like at playtime and lunchtime – please encourage children to report any instances of unkindness to you and/or us.

Be e-Kind

Be e-Safe

Be your e-Best



ZIP IT
Keep your personal stuff private and think about what you say and do online.



BLOCK IT
Block people who send nasty messages and don't open unknown links and attachments.



FLAG IT
Flag up with someone you trust! If anything upsets you or if someone asks to meet you offline.

Time at home has given children a chance to spend time developing their talents and pursuing their interests along with having a go at the tasks set by teachers. Well done to Seren, Emily K, Harvey and Felicity who have work here to share with you:



Haiku poem about online school:

Online school is not that bad,
the work is the same,
but I cannot see my friends.



An endangered vaquita! →

Worry Box

Are you excited about something? Nervous?
Anxious?

Are you finding it hard to sort out a friendship issue?

Are you worried someone is being bullied?

Write a note and Mr Nash will try to help you or let Miss Hinchliffe know.

Whilst we are not all in school Mr Nash is running an electronic Worry Box. Children in Years 2 to 6 can email him on mrnash@shireoak.online and parents in Reception and Year 1 can forward a note via class teachers, me or the office email addresses.

I am hoping to lead a virtual **assembly** next week, but may need to try it out on just a class or two whilst I work out the best way of doing that. Don't forget the Fischy Music assembly at 11am on Monday – fun and energetic, although not quite as energetic as Joe Wicks PE! Susie Hopkins has uploaded a lovely retelling of the **Easter story** to use with children in what would have been the last week of term: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kLZSOqSjIBI&feature=youtu.be>

Have a lovely weekend and well done everybody. Stay safe.

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We know that some of our families are **struggling for food** right now. We are trying to share donated food via the foyer for anyone who can't get what they need. We can also temporarily add your child to the **Free School Meals** list for a daily packed lunch that can be collected there too. Just text us on 07714 157030.