

Dear Parents

I am very mindful of the fact that I don't want to inundate you with communication after communication so please forgive the lengthy nature of this one as I gather a number of pieces of information together.

First and most importantly, I want to reassure you of the continued pastoral support offered by our school to all our families. You will know that your first port of call for pastoral matters regarding your child is the class teacher and that we also have a pastoral team headed by Mrs Issaka. During the Easter holidays and beyond – for as long as this situation may be with us – we have set up an email account specifically for you to contact us regarding pastoral issues if you can't get through/haven't had a response from the form teacher. This address is preppastoralcare@trurosschool.com and will be monitored by my senior team (Mr Frewer, Mrs Issaka, Mrs Ellis-Walker, Mr Sharp, Ms Williams) and me. During the next few weeks, we are aware that members of our community may feel isolated and so we want to assure you that we are contactable and care very much for you and your families.

We are committed to ensuring the ongoing education of our children, both by sending home work-packs and ensuring your child's timetable will be followed through the Everest platform. We believe that the balance between the academic and the pastoral is crucial and want to be available to support our children and families in both aspects. You will decide, as a family, how best to enable and support your child as they complete assignments and lessons that teachers will be setting. You may decide that your child will follow the timetabled day and complete lessons as they would in school. Alternatively, you may decide to have an active morning and an academic afternoon or vice versa. It will be important though that your child remains engaged with their learning so that excellent progress continues to be made. Please join us in ensuring that the two-way communication between your child and school continues and that teachers are sent completed work so that they can assess and feed back to your child. All teachers are going to be working (either in school or at home) unless, of course, they become unwell, and then another teacher will step in and continue in their stead.

We are in no doubt that this is going to be a difficult time for all in our community and the importance of being 'as one' in support of the children is going to be key. Talking, sharing, laughing, watching some fantastic films and enjoying spending time with family members will be one of the 'upsides' to this period and we also hope that you will be able to work on some life skills with your children – from tying laces to sewing on buttons to making a cake!

Children in Years 3-6 will probably be using a computer or laptop more than they would normally do so during the course of a school day and I want to remind parents of the importance of ensuring their safety online. They have been taught all about online safety in school but I wanted to encourage you to keep a good eye on this, too!

One of our doctor parents wrote to me today with some good advice that I would like to pass on here: children's fractures and injuries are much more common during holiday periods and with the school closures now in place, this is a concern. In order to avoid any additional burden on the hospitals and to keep children out of the hospitals where they will be particularly vulnerable, please remind them during their play and activities to be as gentle with themselves as they can!

A further message from Mr Piper re science in Years 3-6 is below:

Many of our science lessons will be based on the Tig-Tag scheme of work which we use in school.

Tigtag and Tigtag Junior

The Authenticating URLs below are for students/parents. These will allow fast access to Tigtag and Tigtag Junior without the need to log in.

Tigtag World <https://www.tigtagworld.com/hi/797J4JOFXLKN?next=/>

Tigtag Junior <https://www.tigtagjunior.com/hi/797J4JOFXLKN?next=/>

Tip: *Students and/or parents will easily be able to find these using the Mind-map, Film List or the Search box. To help you navigate the sites, here are some "How to" instructions.*

<https://www.tigtagworld.com/how-to-use-tigtag/>

<https://www.tigtagjunior.com/how-to-use-tigtag-junior/>

I have named the lessons and very slightly modified them for Year 5 and 6 students. Year 3 and 4 teachers will inform you of what they plan to do via the Everest homework files and links.

During the closure period please do keep the school updated if your child becomes unwell with Coronavirus or any other illness, as we will share this information with the teachers. You can update the school via email: prepoffice@truroschoo.com or by phoning through to the office on 01872 272616.

At this point in time, I am still waiting for confirmation of those pupils on the 'children of critical workers' list but if your child does fit into that category and you need to have him/her in school to continue your work and are not able to make other arrangements for their safe-keeping at home, we will see them on Monday morning.

Take good care of yourselves, your children and each other. I will be in touch again soon; thank you for your patience in reading all of this text!

Kindest regards,
Sarah Patterson