



Friday 17th April 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you have all enjoyed the sunshine over the Easter break and have had the opportunity to relax in some way.

We have reviewed a number of learning platforms and have decided that Class Dojo is the most effective way of sharing home learning with children in Years 1- 6. This is a fun, engaging platform, which is child friendly and will promote developing independence for the children. Class R will continue to use 'Evidence Me' as their platform for learning.

We fully appreciate that the children may be missing their friends and school community just as much as we are missing them so we expect that Class Dojo can provide some welcome interaction between us all. Each week, Home Learning will be uploaded to Class Dojo (in the same format as before, as we know this is working well). The class teachers will indicate which tasks children should be expected to upload to Class Dojo, using the symbol:



Children will also be able to share any work that they choose with their teacher.

Teachers will then comment on **some** pieces of work or 'like' work that children upload to Class Dojo. Children may also receive ELLI points, in the same way that they would in school. It will not be possible for teachers to comment on all pieces of work.

Families are all different with, for instance, many parents working from home and all needing to share the IT equipment, this underpins our 'Pick and Mix' approach to Home Learning (as advocated by the Local Authority). We have considered the needs of families and staff to ensure that the home learning journey is accessible for all and sustainable throughout this ever-changing situation. Although the learning is shared via technology, it is very much designed to be multi-sensory and executed in variety of ways to suit the age range of the children (as would be the case in school).

We will be rolling out Class Dojo over the next few weeks to ensure that they children develop confidence in using the features and have the opportunity to be involved in developing ideas. We will add more content and develop other ways to support the children as the weeks progress. We will also be evaluating if we should use the platform as a continuing part of post lockdown school life.

Instructions

- To start using the Class Dojo, download the app on any device.



It can also be accessed on a PC via the website <https://www.classdojo.com>



- Your child will shortly receive a **QR code** which will enable them to log onto the app and access their class.
- Initially, Class teachers will ask the children to practice uploading some work to Class Dojo that they will comment on.

We will continue to upload the overview of Home Learning to the school website.

Additional Information

We have also revised our Maths Calculations Policy and provided you with booklets which outline the National Curriculum expectations for each year group. These can be found on the class pages of the school website. You will also see we have added a list of useful websites that can be used to support home learning.

Some of you may be aware that BBC Bitesize is launching a national programme to support the daily teaching of mathematics, English and science on the 20th April 2020. We may refer to this in our planning as, from the initial look at the site, the signs look incredibly promising and very exciting.

We are very aware that these are very tricky times for families and that facilitating Home Learning is not always easy whilst trying to maintain loving, nurturing and secure home lives for our children. So, whilst we are providing opportunities for children to access Home Learning, we know that you will use your best judgment in deciding how much or how little to expect of your child and this may vary from day to day. Your child's well-being and happiness should remain the priority for us all and please do not underestimate the value of playing games, reading stories, baking, crafting and going for walks – these are all excellent examples of Home Learning. Your teachers will enjoy you sharing examples of these too! 😊

If you need to contact your child's class teacher for additional clarification or have any problems accessing Class Dojo, please contact us by email admin@preshute.wilts.sch.uk.

We are sure that the children will enjoy using Class Dojo and will engage in this more interactive process. Teachers are looking forward to trialling this learning platform and look forward to sharing learning experiences with their class. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience and support during these past four weeks. It seems incredible how much we have all had to adapt in such a short time.

Yours sincerely,

Claire Hann-Perkins.
Headteacher

Peter McGuigan
Chair of Governors

