



BATH & WELLS  
Multi Academy Trust

'That they may have life, life in all its fullness' John 10:10

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4 February 2021     **Update 9**

Dear Parents and Carers

A brief update today. I hope you are all well and I send you my best wishes.

It's week five of Lockdown now and I'm sure there is a lot of fatigue and frustration for many of us. I hope that the increase in live sessions will be a positive step for the children and will further support them with their learning and their well-being.

Here is the new timetable starting Monday 8 February:

<b>Diamond Class:</b>	Tuesday 10 30 am and Thursday 10 30 am
<b>Opal Class:</b>	Monday 9 30 am and Thursday 10 am
<b>Topaz Class:</b>	Monday 12 30 pm and Wednesday 12 30 pm
<b>Amber Class:</b>	Tuesday 10 am and Thursday 1 30 pm
<b>Sapphire Class:</b>	Tuesday 1 30 pm and Thursday 9 30 am
<b>Emerald Class:</b>	Tuesday 9 30 am and Thursday 1 pm

I hope the children enjoyed Well Being Week this week. I can see from feedback on Teams that they have done lovely things and my thanks to the staff for organising this with such care.

Next Tuesday 9 February is Safer Internet Day and staff will be planning some activities around this for the children. The global theme is 'Together for a better internet'. In the UK, the focus is on how young people can tell fact from fiction and work together to create an internet we trust.



### A short thought for this week...



You will, I'm sure, have heard the very sad news about the passing of Captain Sir Tom Moore. Had we been in school all together, I would have included a bit about this in my Collective Worship this week. I would have chatted to the children about how one person can make such a difference in the world and how he was a sign of hope and inspiration to us all. Sir Tom just 'walked round his garden', a seemingly small thing but at 99 years old – quite amazing! I always tell the children that you don't need to be famous to make a difference in the world. We can all be like Sir Tom though, if we think about what we can do to make the world a better place, however small that act may seem to be.

A prayer for all of us at this time...

*Dear God,  
Please be with us when we are tired.  
Give us the strength to overcome our difficulties and  
Teach us to keep going when things are hard for us.  
Help us not to take our gifts and talents for granted and  
Help us to do the little things that make a big difference.  
Amen.*



Take care and God Bless

Mrs Thomson  
Headteacher

### On –Site Provision

The number of pupils in school at the moment is steadily rising and bubble sizes are increasing. I again kindly ask Critical Worker parents to use the school facility only if they need to as we want to minimise the number of people on site each day if we can. The most recent government update reiterated the following:

***'Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school or college if required, but parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can.'***

### Keeping Safe Online

E-Safety is regularly taught in school to all pupils explaining and demonstrating how to stay safe and behave appropriately online. We want to support parents during this period of Lockdown so here are some useful Safeguarding Links for parents:

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

<http://www.childnet.com/blog/a-parents-guide-to-fortnite-battle-royale> <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

We encourage parents to have conversations with their child about online safety and be aware of how they can build their child's resilience to online content, encourage open conversations about online life and ensure children know they can talk to their parents/guardians about it.

*Report Harmful Content* has helpful content to support children who have seen something upsetting online: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/advice-parents-what-do-if-your-child-sees-something-upsetting-online>

### **Support for Reading on 'Teams'**

**Immersive Reader** is a learning tool that provides a full screen reading experience to increase readability. It can be used to read the teacher's morning messages, assignment instructions and Word documents using the Office 365 apps.

All the Office 365 apps are available to all students by logging into Office: [www.office.com](http://www.office.com) with their own username and password.

Immersive Reader lets you:

- Change font size, text spacing, and background colour.
- Split up words into syllables.
- Highlight verbs, nouns, adjectives and sub-clauses.
- Choose between two fonts optimised to help with reading.
- Read out text aloud, and change the speed of reading.

[How to Use Microsoft Immersive Reader to make Office 365 Accessible - YouTube](#)

### **Communication**

- For issues other than home learning or if the email is personally confidential or a safeguarding concern then please use the office email as usual.
- In these anxious times, I will be checking the office emails myself once each day at the weekend for any urgent safeguarding issues or if symptoms or a positive case of COVID-19 is reported amongst the in-school community. Non urgent emails will be picked up on Monday morning as usual.

### **Home Learning**

- We are still seeing a good response on Teams which is great. If you are experiencing any technical issues, then please contact us and we will try to help you.
- As instructed in the Government guidance, we have to monitor engagement with remote learning. We will be sensitively contacting you if there has been no apparent home learning done as yet, not in a negative way or to pressurise any parent but to support and to offer help if necessary. Please contact us if you are experiencing any difficulties. We know how daunting this can seem - especially if parents are trying to juggle working at home and helping with home learning. Please get in touch with us if you need support.

### **Keeping Safe on Teams.**

- Please do supervise your child on TEAMS where possible, and definitely in any live session.
- Teams' activity is monitored daily by members of SLT.
- If you need to speak to a teacher about any aspects of remote learning, then I ask you kindly please use the home learning email [home.learning@kcs.bwmat.org](mailto:home.learning@kcs.bwmat.org) *FAO class teacher* rather than the online chat or the office email please.
- The online chat is a platform that can be seen by all the children and should only be used by the children for greetings/children to talk to the teacher or to each other about specific learning tasks or to ask for support/feedback/guidance. (For younger pupils, parents may of course need to type their comments for them)

- Children and parents should not upload any documents/resources/advice/issues to the online chat. If this happens, we will delete them as you will appreciate that it is the teachers' role to do this.
- If we deem any use of the chat by parents or children as inappropriate or unsuitable, then those messages will be removed as soon as is possible, as they are on view to the whole class and we reserve the right to withdraw the chat function for your child if we have further concerns.
- Staff will respond to the children as quickly as they can on the Teams chat. Bear with them as they need breaks, of course, and they are also on rota in school with our 3 key worker bubbles.
- Parents have been sent guidelines and a permission slip for pupils to attend any live sessions. These must be returned to school before we can admit pupils to live sessions.