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Headteacher – Mrs Judi Jackson

Monday 20 April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to provide some covering information about the learning packs which have been created to support your children during the first part of the summer term whilst schools remain closed. We aim to answer some of the questions you may have below. Please be reassured that our message continues to be that you know your children best. These documents are intended to provide ideas and a structure should you feel this is necessary.

Why has this home school learning pack been created?

This home school learning pack has been created in response to a need to supplement educational resources to the majority of Crayke CE pupils, who are currently taking part in home schooling, due to the Coronavirus outbreak across the UK. Based on this real need, and in creating the home schooling pack, we fully acknowledge that they cannot replace the quality of learning your child receives at school. However, our focus has been on creating a set of resources and activity ideas that all children can access to maximise their learning whilst at home.

What are the aims of the Learning Projects?

- To create age specific learning opportunities for our primary school children.
- To create a resource for parents that is easy to access and use - the focus is on parents being able to help deliver the content or children accessing it independently.
- Key learning is linked to the National Curriculum.
- To enable children to continue with their learning at home during the current enforced lockdown.
- To enable families to focus on activities to promote family wide learning.
- To provide structure and focus to each day that an enforced shutdown occurs.
- To centralise online learning resources and links into an easy to manage format for families.

How do I use the homeschooling packs?

Your first step is to select the age range linked to the year group your child is in. Whilst these resources and activities have been created with an order in mind, you do not have to follow this.

The suggestion is for you to complete approximately two hours of learning a day with your child but this is very much your parental choice and you may wish for your child to do more, or less, depending on their age, ability and interests.

What happens if my child finds the learning too difficult?

Our first piece of advice to parents is that ALL children find elements of learning challenging at times so try not to worry if your child becomes stuck and you cannot explain it to them. If this happens then make a note of what they found hard and move onto another learning activity - school will cover any misconceptions when we return.

These homeschooling activities and resources have been designed are based on the National Curriculum expectations for the year group which your child is in. It may be that your child finds the tasks set within the for their year group too challenging, for example if they have additional learning needs. If this is the case, then we advise that your child accesses the resources and activities which are set to the age range below, for example a child in Year 3/4 could attempt the Year 1/2 learning resources, if this is more appropriate for them.

If your child has additional learning needs, they have an Individual Provision Map to help support their learning and progress. It could also be that learning time at home is used to work on the targets which your child is currently on.

What are the themes of the week and how will we receive the information?

The weekly themes are as follows:

Week 1 – Viewpoints

Week 2 – Animals

Week 3 – Environment

Week 4 – Food

Week 5 - Celebrations

Learning packs for each class will be posted via the website each Monday for the week ahead in both Word document and PDF form. We hope that by each age group having the same theme it will make it easier for families to manage siblings in different classes, and to dip in and out of resources from corresponding year groups if needed.

In what order should my child access the tasks each day?

Again this is a decision to be taken through discussion with your child, as well as your knowledge of them and their interests. A suggested format could be as follows:

	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5
Monday	Maths	Reading	Phonics/Spelling	Writing	Topic
Tuesday	Writing	Maths	Reading	Phonics/Spelling	Topic
Wednesday	Phonics/Spelling	Writing	Maths	Reading	Topic
Thursday	Reading	Phonics/Spelling	Writing	Maths	Topic
Friday	Maths	Reading	Phonics/Spelling	Writing	Topic

Are there any supplementary resources?

The wealth of resources available can at times feel a little daunting and overwhelming. Here are some suggestions. Mrs Rayner has produced spelling lists for the half term ahead which will also be posted on the school website as PDF documents. These can be used in a variety of ways with your child including weekly testing if you so wish. Times Table Rock Stars remains an excellent resource for learning multiplication and division facts at an appropriate level for your child. The class teachers will be setting tasks on Purple Mash for the children in their classes. They will respond to children's submissions to these during their working week (NB: A reminder that Mrs Chandler does not work on a Monday and Mrs Rayner does not work on a Friday) The DfE have produced a list of suggested websites which will be posted separately. BBC Bitesize are due to commence online

lessons this week which can be viewed on iPlayer. We will continue to post regular ideas on a range of topics and in different subject areas via the website.

How can I contact school?

School remains open for a very small number of children so it is always worth trying to give us a ring if you want to speak to us. Please do leave a message if there is nobody in the office to answer your call and we will get back to you as soon as possible. Alternatively, I can be contacted on headteacher@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk and Mrs Bacon on admin@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk

A reminder of the class teachers' email addresses as follows:

Mrs Helfferich – class1@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk

Mrs Dobson – class2@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk

Mrs Rayner – class3@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk

Mrs Chandler – class4@crayke.n-yorks.sch.uk

We know it's a stressful time – many of you are trying to work and run your homes, as well as worrying about your children's learning, health and general wellbeing. Our Christian Value for this term is TRUST and it couldn't be a better one. We must trust and have faith that we will be able to come together as a school community again when the time is right. We hope that you as parents can put your trust in us as school staff to find the best way forward – both whilst school is closed and when it reopens again. We are here to support in any way we can and will continue to do so in the weeks and months ahead.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

Judi Jackson
Headteacher