

Dear parents,

Another amazing week in the life of Cuddington and Dinton School!
Clearly, we will not be opening on Monday 18th January for all children, but will continue with the in-school key worker provision until we are advised by the Government to change.

We have now received 10 Laptops and tablets and have been able to so far hand out 5. The remainder will be distributed once our IT technician has checked them. We have collected £210 in donations and will buy a new laptop for use at home- thank you to the generous families who have donated to this fund. Our 2 allocated laptops from the Government arrived this morning, these will also be allocated asap.

Another parent suggested they would like to donate food to supplement the free school meal parcels. We are not offering food parcels but vouchers instead. However, from Monday, we will put a box in the reception area of both sites for food bank donations. This will reach the families in need and is a wonderful way of helping others. If you would like to drop food off on your daily walk, or when you drop the children off for school, that would be amazing.

I do hope the exercise books you collected this week have proved useful. Please let me know if you missed the allocated time to collect, we can leave them in the reception area for you to collect if we have notice.

In school we currently have an average of 48 children, in four bubbles (Foundation, year 1&2, year 3&4, year 5&6). Parents have been very accommodating in reducing their number of days so that we do not need to have a rota- thank you.
On a daily basis in school children are being taught English and maths by a teacher and joining in the class zoom sessions too. We are trying to run a 'normal' school day as we believe routine is important for the children in school, as well as at home.

I also have the privilege of joining the morning zoom sessions and reviewing some of the homework and, once again, a big thank you to all of you for supporting your children's home learning. The majority of the children are joining the zoom meetings and submitting quality homework; today the year 1 planets were so inventive! Please can you make sure that the maths and English work is as independent as possible, so teachers are able to support your child's learning and address misconceptions. There have been some queries about the timetable on the class pages. The subjects are not in the order you need to do them, it is entirely up to you how you organise your day, this is just a guide. The most important part is that the highlighted lesson is not completed before the daily zoom session.

Stay safe and have a great weekend
Mrs Price

Information for working parents

A parent has sent me the following information about some possible ways of helping working parents.

Non-key worker spouses may be able to ask their employer to furlough them for childcare responsibilities – this can be done flexibly so they are only furloughed for part of the week, if their employer can't furlough them for the whole of their working week. The following website provides good advice on

this: <https://workingfamilies.org.uk/articles/coronavirus-furlough/>

Self-employed non-key worker spouses could also consider claiming the Government's self-employed income support scheme. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/how-your-trading-conditions-affect-your-eligibility-for-the-self-employment-income-support-scheme#tempunable>

Storytime

School Readers is a charity which matches volunteers with schools to help children develop their reading skills and develop a love of books. As they cannot currently visit schools, they have put together a package of children's authors reading one of their books. Please follow the link below, for your child to listen to a favourite story. www.Schoolreaders.org/storytime (please see your emailed newsletter for the password, we have been asked not to share this on our webpage)

Bags 2 School

We have a prebooked collection day for all your unwanted clothes. This is a fundraiser for our school as we receive a small amount per bag collected. As we haven't been able to hand out the usual collection bags, the charity has agreed that regular refuse bags are suitable.

Please leave your bags before 9am on Friday 22nd January *

Infants site - under the Foundation window

Junior site - in front of the hall window

* Only bring them on the collection day 22/01/21, and remember to socially distance when dropping off