Dear parents/carers,

This is a lengthy email but I hope it helps you to understand where we are going with learning at home and how we hope to support your child and you over the next few weeks,

As a staff, from ELCC to P7, we have had a very successful on line planning meeting this week.

As I am sure you are all aware working from home brings its own challenges with some of my staff having to support their own children’s home schooling while planning and delivering online learning for your children.

The experiences and outcomes we planned to work on this term in school have actually lent themselves very well to planning for home learning. The **Interdisciplinary learning topic** included Social studies outcomes relating to environments, food, climate and weather, science outcomes relating to weather, food chains and living/non-living things and technology outcomes relating to model making.

In **maths** we will be looking at shape and at fractions. Again this links very well with outdoor activities and with lots of everyday things you will be doing at home from cooking to sorting out cupboards, gardening and even washing!

In **language** most of the reading and writing activities are ongoing skills development but again the writing will relate to the IDL work and this work will also require reading for information and research purposes, particularly up the school.

It is however important that pupils continue to read for pleasure- try having an hour each day when the whole family have time to sit and read together or individually but encouraging all to enjoy books. I will send the nursery parents some useful prompts, we use in nursery and school, to help them to share books together

These experiences and outcomes will be shared with you each week as teachers send out some home learning for your children.

For pupils in P1-7 staff have now established a planning format which they feels is easy to share with you and your children and will email out a letter and a planning grid to you each Friday. This will contain Learning intentions and success criteria along with suggested learning activities for your child. (Learning intention: The overall outcome of the learning experience. Success criteria:The particular skills being developed.)

For **nursery pupils** staff will communicate activities via seesaw as this allows quick and easy sharing of activities and information. Please contact your key worker via email ( addresses included in this email if you need help logging into seesaw.

Primary 6/7 and Primary 5 will continue to use their Goggle “Classrooms” to access and share learning throughout each day.

WHAT IS GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Google Classroom is a **free web service**, developed by Google for schools, that aims to simplify creating, distributing, and grading assignments in a paperless way. The primary purpose of Google Classroom is to streamline the process of sharing files between teachers and students. It is not like being in a classroom- the teacher is not visible but is online at times during the day to answer pupil questions and collect work pupils submit.

This is being accessed by many children at these stages but we understand that this does not suit all families or all learners and so we will continue to send work out by email and are happy to receive work and feedback via class teachers email.

We have decided to try using the facility with P3/4 pupils but for very specific activities so they begin to learn how to use this facility. It requires pupils to be able to read and write and to be able to type and use IT skills at a particular level and so is not suitable for our younger pupils.

We have decided as a staff to review how topic is progressing in a few weeks and review our planning for June to ensure that we give time to plan for transition to new stages, new classes and new schools. This will be important for all pupils but particularly for those moving from nursery to P1 and from P7 to S1.

I hope everyone is well and remembering that looking after yourself and your families is the most important thing. Being content is the most important thing just now. School work and learning should only be taking place for as long as everyone is able to manage each day. No-one expecting you and your children to work from 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday. Get outside as much as you can and enjoy learning about your surroundings through play and fun activities.

Frances Bretman