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Education and Families

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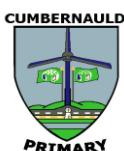
Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to Week 3 of Remote Learning 2021

As you will be aware, all children and young people will continue with online learning until mid-February (there will be a further review by the Scottish Government on 2 February 2021). The school continues to remain closed to most pupils, who will instead be provided with a programme of remote learning, based on digital experiences and supplemented with other resources, where applicable.

Our teachers will continue to remain in direct contact with pupils online through GLOW and Microsoft Teams. In addition, children can access North Lanarkshire Council's Virtual Classroom offering, as outlined in previous correspondence. All content on the Virtual Classroom will be regularly updated to ensure pupils have access to quality materials based on the curriculum. Your child's class teacher will provide information to direct your child to the relevant areas of the site. I have included a reminder for you in the table below:

Curriculum for Excellence Levels	Colour(s)
Early	Red
First	Orange, Yellow and Green
Second	Blue, Indigo and Violet



I want to thank all members of our school community (pupils, parents and staff) for their continued support. Since the school has returned we have continued to provide a range of support to our pupils and parents, including:

- Direct contact on the telephone from members of staff
- Resolving a range of technical issues
- Preparing and delivering educational resources and materials for home learning
- Responding to specific enquiries from parents and carers
- Delivering in school provision to the children of keyworkers and vulnerable children
- Delivering remote learning to children at home via GLOW and Microsoft Teams

Across the school, we are delighted with the high levels of engagement from our pupils on Microsoft Teams (90 %+). The school has also received some encouraging feedback from parents and carers:

“Thanks for the support you and other teachers have given us, the grids have been very helpful and perfect for kids’ age group.”

“My child is really enjoying the tasks and videos (especially Geraldine!), and the PowerPoints in particular are great - I think it makes a huge difference to have a teacher explaining the concepts and keeps them 'connected' with school.”

“I would just like to say thank you for all the work you are all doing in trying to continue giving our kids the routine, encouragement and support through this difficult time. Of course there will be some initial issues here and there but that does not prevent us knowing how much you all care and realising the amount of work you are all doing on our kids’ behalf”.

“Just wanted to say a massive thank you to you all - the tough days seem to just keep coming but ALL of the staff at the school seem to just get/keep going. We know you're all working so hard, and doing such long hours for all the pupils. We very much appreciate it.”

What is remote learning?

Remote learning is learning that is **directed** by practitioners and **undertaken** by children and young people who are not physically present with the practitioner while instruction is taking place. Remote learning involves a combination of ‘live’ interactions between the teacher and

the learners, and also learning which takes place away from the direct presence of the class teacher. It may involve a range of learning experiences which take place in a variety of spaces, including outdoors and includes active and physical learning. Remote learning can be delivered in a variety of ways:

- It may include activities such as research tasks, project work, practical opportunities, discussions and other activities that can be carried out away from a digital device.
- It may involve teacher led instruction delivered 'live' to pupils in real time and may involve interaction with peers as part of the learning experience.
- It is important to note that 'live' learning does not have to be a teacher in front of a camera; it can be a PowerPoint or still image with the teacher speaking.
- It may also include 'recorded' learning input from a teacher, which the young person has been directed to. This enables flexibility for our pupils and families to access these resources at a time most convenient to them.
- There are also approaches that encourage pupils to work independently, sometimes with technology that adapts the content of tasks in order to provide additional challenge or support- e.g. Sumdog.

Learners should not engage in online learning for the entirety of the school day. It is expected that learning will include provision of opportunities to consolidate, extend and enhance learning to take account of and meet the needs of the learners and their families. This may be accommodated by providing access to pre-recorded lessons, presentations, lesson notes, diagrams or links to useful websites.

As always, we aim to continue improving the delivery of our remote learning to ensure the best educational experience for our learners. With this in mind, our staff will introduce regular weekly check in times on Microsoft Teams to enable pupils to speak to each other and their teachers. The table below outlines our plans for this week:

Classes	Staff	Date and Time
P1A and P1B	Mrs Canning, Mrs Steven and Mrs Wares	Wednesday 27 th January from 9.15am.
P2A, P2B and P2/3	Mrs Kinnear, Miss Richmond and Mrs Simmonette	Friday 29 th January from 9.15am

P3 and P3/4	Mrs Allison and Miss White	Thursday 28 th January from 9.15am
P4 and P4/5	Mrs Kerr, Miss Gomez, Mrs Gillooly and Mrs Cardle	Wednesday 27 th January from 1.30pm
P5A and P5B	Miss Theobald and Mrs Curran	Wednesday 27 th January from 1.30pm
P6 and P6/7	Mrs Dobbie, Mrs Coutts and Mr Horner	Tuesday 26 th January from 12.00pm
P7A and P7B	Mrs Brett and Mrs Ogilvie	Tuesday 26 th January from 9.15am

Following on from this our teachers are planning to augment their current provision by providing 2-3 short 'live' lessons or input to each class per week online. Pupils will need to sign onto Microsoft Teams to take part in a small group or a class lesson. This will need to take place at a set time and with a member of staff, this may be the member of staff who would normally be in the class or another member of staff. The teaching staff will inform you directly of their plans on your child's Teams page. I have attached our Guidance for Remote Learning which contains relevant information and protocols to ensure best practice.

Finally we wish to thank you all for being so supportive of your children during these most challenging of times. We recognise that many of our families are facing challenges that are unique to them. Please do not feel pressure from us to complete all of the tasks all of the time. We know that some days will be easier than others. I hope that you, and your family remain safe and well whilst balancing the challenges of school work and home life.

As always, if we can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact a member of staff at the school.

Stay safe, take care of yourselves and each other.

Yours sincerely

Ed Clinton

Head Teacher

