

## Barncroft Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Julia Roberts



This letter is available in larger print format if required

24th April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Following the announcement last Thursday that the lockdown is set to continue for at least another three weeks, I wanted to send you an update from the team at school. We hope that you are all managing to stay safe and well during this time. With regards to home learning, we have spoken to lots of parents who have been asking how much work is enough or querying how they can continue to support their children's learning at home. Firstly, can I stress that keeping your child happy, motivated and positive is the most important job of any parent right now. For most children this will involve a routine including some learning time but this will vary from family to family and if it is becoming a battle between you and your child, we understand and recommend not forcing the issue. Go with the flow and if all the learning your child does is reading daily then you are doing a great job.

With regards work packs, we are not sending out paper work packs but are guiding parents towards **BBC Bitesize** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons> and **Oak National Academy website** <https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom>. Both of these sites have launched their 'daily lessons'. BBC Bitesize have 3 daily lessons which are specifically aimed at each year group through a mixture of videos, interactive activities and printable work sheets. There are also some other websites on our School webpage, under 'Our Learners', and we are continuing to email out the Home Learning Newsletter which also provides some other helpful sources.

I know the children are missing their teachers as we are missing them and would like to remind you that you can email in to show things they have been doing, art work, writing, maths, creative arts, photographs and more. The teachers will respond via the MarvellousMe. The email addresses for contact are as follows:

[year1@barncroftprimary.hants.sch.uk](mailto:year1@barncroftprimary.hants.sch.uk)

[year2@barncroftprimary.hants.sch.uk](mailto:year2@barncroftprimary.hants.sch.uk)

[year3@barncroftprimary.hants.sch.uk](mailto:year3@barncroftprimary.hants.sch.uk)

[year4@barncroftprimary.hants.sch.uk](mailto:year4@barncroftprimary.hants.sch.uk)

[year5@barncroftprimary.hants.sch.uk](mailto:year5@barncroftprimary.hants.sch.uk)

[year6@barncroftprimary.hants.sch.uk](mailto:year6@barncroftprimary.hants.sch.uk)

EYFS – you can access the Reception microsite by clicking on Reception in the menu on the left hand side of our website.

Please remember that there are staff in school daily, so please do call if there is any way that you feel we can support you and your child further. If your contact details have recently changed then please let us know and we will update them on our system.

With best wishes,

Julia Roberts

Headteacher



The Barncroft Vision: To be an inclusive school in which all children enjoy an outstanding learning experience, make good progress and leave us as responsible happy citizens.

# 7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures.

- 1** Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading, wherever it is!

- 2** Ask your child lots of questions



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

- 3** Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

- 4** Ask your child to summarise what they have read



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

- 5** Ask your child to write about what they have read



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

- 6** Read and discuss reading with friends or family



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

- 7** Maintain the motivation to read



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'