

*The school building is closed but learning carries on for everyone
remotely!*



Thursday, 19th March, 2020

Dear Parents,

As you have no doubt picked up from the national press, The Prime Minister has decided that it is in the public interest that all schools should be closed with effect from Monday, 23rd March indefinitely for all but key workers' children and those children with an Education Health Care Plan/deemed as vulnerable. We are still awaiting clarification on the criteria for these families.

If your child is not in school from Monday, we have been working hard behind the scenes to ensure that your child is still able to access their learning remotely, in this time of uncertainty.

We have therefore provided a pack of work for each child, which will help them to consolidate and embed previous learning; enable them to apply their skills and also to complete research and project work in relation to their foundation subjects.



To further support this, we are also extending our remote access with families through a range of different on-line tools:



Firstly, your child will have come home with a joining instruction and QR code for the Seesaw app. You have been asked to test this by responding to the teacher.

This is a remote means of communication between your child and their teacher or teaching assistant (TA). **Your child's teacher/TA will be able to post short videos and voice recordings to set new tasks for the class each morning by 9:30am.** Sometimes this may come from the other year group teacher too. We will be sharing a recommended timetable for the day. You and your child can respond by commenting on the app with a text or voice message so that teachers can assist with the work. This is also a means of asking for teacher support with the work set through the message facility, if your child is stuck for any reason. You will receive a notification when a new post has been added by the teacher.

Should you need to contact your child's class teacher whilst the school is closed, or return completed work, we will be sending their email addresses to you via Parentmail in a Welcome to Remote Learning letter. You can then use this facility to post your child's work as a photograph as an email attachment so that the teacher can give feedback once they have assessed the work of the class. We do ask that you limit emails to one per day to class teachers to make this manageable.

The following apps can be accessed by children to support and challenge their learning. General recommendations are, which should be checked regularly for new work set:

Times Table Rockstars (multiplication tables)

SPAG.com

Oxford Owl/Oxford Reading Buddy

Lexia Core 5 (for Reading)

Prodigy (Maths challenge and reasoning)

Purple Mash



Oxford
Reading
Buddy



There are also a range of website links for each subject on our school website: www.ryders-hayes.co.uk under Our Curriculum/Subject. Your teacher may also create a URL - link to be shared on Seesaw for age-related SATs style questions. The logo for TestBase looks like this:

testbase

*The school building is closed but learning carries on for everyone
remotely!*



We recommend a search engine called **Swiggle**, which is a free child-friendly search engine, from the on-line safety experts at SWGfL (South West Grid for Learning). This would be a useful means of safe searching and research, which is also advertisement free.



When learning at home it is advisable that you switch the television off; try to organise a suitable height table and chair for your child when writing; and also split up sessions with physical activity where possible for brain breaks. Siblings may enjoy learning together. Teachers will advise you about access to a vast range of on-line books to share.

The Senior Leadership Team emails are also shared with you below, should you need their assistance at this difficult time. Look out for Parentmails for any updates on the latest situations from me.

We wish all our families who have symptoms and are self-isolating a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing you all back at Ryders Hayes fit and well when the Government deem it safe to do so.

SLT emails:

Sally Miner, Head Teacher s.miner@ryders-hayes.co.uk

Jaz Paul, Head of School j.paul@ryders-hayes.co.uk

Aly Church, Deputy Head of School a.church@ryders-hayes.co.uk

Lou Deeley, Assistant Head Teacher l.deeley@ryders-hayes.co.uk

Alison Bevan, Finance Director a.bevan@ryders-hayes.co.uk

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sally T. Miner".

Sally Miner and the Ryders Hayes Team