

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Families

We are keen for all our children to continue their learning at home as best they can following the announcement that all schools in England will be closing from tomorrow afternoon, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. We know that this is an unsettling time for our children (and for us adults too). Having a clear, daily routine will be important to reassure and provide a sense of 'normality' for all of us.

Our staff team will plan activities that can be completed at home. These activities will be posted on **Google Classroom** for **Years 2-6** every week day by **3.30pm** by the class teacher ready for the following day. Pupils have been given their login details to access the online platform and have been shown how to access it.

If you encounter any difficulties in accessing or understanding the tasks please email [info@goldfinchprimary.org.uk](mailto:info@goldfinchprimary.org.uk) and someone will get back to you as soon as possible. However, staff may not always be available due to the current circumstances.

**Google Classroom video tutorials links:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2lowi-gmbys>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xfgqtCi7hdo>

As you might be aware, all exams including Year 2 and Year 6 SATs have now been cancelled. It is still important that our Year 6 pupils can demonstrate they are KS3 ready and continue completing the work set for them as best as they can.

We hope that all families will be able to access the internet and will have books and stationery at home for their children to use. However, we are aware that some families in our community may struggle to provide these things for the duration of the closure. If you need additional equipment so that your children can carry on learning, please let us know via the school email as we have some resources that we can share.

Children in school have been given an exercise book in which to complete and record their learning at home. If your child is already off school, you can collect a book from the office throughout Friday 20 March.

We suggest agreeing a 'weekday timetable' with your children. We know that this might be tricky but giving the children the opportunity to have some control over when they do things will make it easier to get them to stick to it. Above all, please attempt to remain calm and positive and praise every effort your child makes. Additionally, please encourage your child to read, read, read!

The following daily schedule may be a helpful starting point:



<b>Daily Schedule</b>		
Before 9:00	Wake Up	Breakfast, make your bed, get ready (Yes - change out of PJs)
9:00 - 10:00	Morning Walk	Family walk Yoga, stretching, exercises at home if it's raining
10:00 - 11:00	Learning Time	Google Classroom activities, reading, daily diary writing, practicing times tables, handwriting
11:00 - 12:00	Creative Time	Legos, puzzles, drawing, crafting, play music, cook or bake. Planting seeds in the garden and watching them grow (this could be recorded in a learning journal).
12:00	Lunch Children could be involved in preparing food with adults.	
12:30	Chore Time	A - wipe kitchen table and chairs B - wipe all door handles, light switches, desk tops C - wipe bathroom, sinks and toilets
1:00 - 2:30	Quiet Time	Reading, puzzles, nap
2:30 - 4:00	Learning Time	Online platforms (e.g. Mathletics, kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk, TTRockstars, Hit the Button, reading apps)
4:00 - 5:00	Afternoon Fresh Air	Walk, play outside if possible. Indoor exercises and stretching routine
5:00 - 6:00	Dinner Children could be involved in preparing food with adults.	
6:00 - 8:00	Free time	
Shower, bedtime		

Please encourage your child to complete all of the activities set. Don't worry too much if less gets done than you'd wanted; education is a marathon and not a sprint. And there's always tomorrow. Staff will do their best to monitor and support where they can.

If your child becomes unwell and is unable to complete any work, please email the office [info@goldfinchprimary.org.uk](mailto:info@goldfinchprimary.org.uk) to let us know.

**Helpful links:**

(please keep an eye on your SchoolComm emails and the school website as we will attempt to update and develop this list further as different companies are currently working on developing free online support)

<p>All subjects - EYFS - Y6</p>	<p><a href="https://kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk/">https://kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk/</a> (login have been provided)</p> <p><b>Twinkl</b> - primary resources, materials for all year groups and all subjects. Currently free for parents to create and use unlimited accounts. Step 1: Go to <a href="http://www.twinkl.co.uk/offer">www.twinkl.co.uk/offer</a> Step 2: Enter the code CVDTWINKLHELPS to get full access to a range of resources.</p>
<p>English</p>	<p>Stories read out loud to children of <u>all ages</u>: <a href="https://www.storylineonline.net/">https://www.storylineonline.net/</a></p> <p><b>Poetry</b> <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/english-ks1-ks2-understanding-poetry-with-joseph-coelho/zdhubq3">https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/english-ks1-ks2-understanding-poetry-with-joseph-coelho/zdhubq3</a></p> <p><b>Daily writing ideas:</b> <a href="http://www.pobble365.com/">http://www.pobble365.com/</a></p> <p><b>Spelling</b> <a href="https://spellingframe.co.uk/">https://spellingframe.co.uk/</a></p> <p><a href="https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/">https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/</a></p>
<p>Maths</p>	<p><a href="http://www.mathletics.co.uk">www.mathletics.co.uk</a> (logins have been provided)</p> <p><b>Times tables practice:</b> <a href="https://trockstars.com/">https://trockstars.com/</a> (logins have been provided)</p> <p><a href="https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button">https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button</a></p> <p><b>Maths 4 Kids</b> A <b>youtube</b> channel aimed at showing you all that Maths can be fun and something everyone can do. You might be a child wanting a bit of extra help; a parent wanting to understand the methods taught in school today <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCob4tkfOSXy6yav9Y54SKIQ">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCob4tkfOSXy6yav9Y54SKIQ</a></p>
<p>Reading- free ebooks EYFS, KS1, KS2</p>	<p><b>Oxford Owl</b> <a href="https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/">https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/</a> (logins have been provided)</p> <p><b>Capstone Library</b> FREE access to their entire database of ebooks for kids <b>until April 5th</b>. Go to:<a href="http://mycapstonelibrary.com">http://mycapstonelibrary.com</a> <b>Login:</b> linearth <b>Password:</b> lovetoread</p>
<p>Phonics</p>	<p><b>Phonics Play</b></p>

EYFS and KS1	<a href="https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/">https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/</a> username: march20 password: home
Computing/coding	FREE Coding for Kids classes, websites, & apps (ages 8-18) <a href="https://codewizardshq.com/coding-for-kids-free/">https://codewizardshq.com/coding-for-kids-free/</a>
Wellbeing - physical and mental	<p><b>GoNoodle</b> Movement and mindfulness videos created by child development experts <a href="https://family.gonoodle.com/">https://family.gonoodle.com/</a></p> <p><b>The Body Coach</b> - Kids workouts to do at home <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLyCLOpd4VxBvPHOpzoEk5onAEbq40g2-k">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLyCLOpd4VxBvPHOpzoEk5onAEbq40g2-k</a></p> <p><b>PESports</b> <a href="http://www.keypesports.co.uk/">http://www.keypesports.co.uk/</a> From Monday 23rd March PESports will be sharing videos/resources/challenges/ideas of how you can keep children active at home.</p> <p><b>Yoga and mindfulness for kids:</b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga">https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga</a></p>
Talking to your child about coronavirus	<p><a href="https://childmind.org/article/talking-to-kids-about-the-coronavirus/">https://childmind.org/article/talking-to-kids-about-the-coronavirus/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.northbridgehouse.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/48/2020/03/Cognita_Coronavirus_tips.pdf">https://www.northbridgehouse.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/48/2020/03/Cognita_Coronavirus_tips.pdf</a></p>

### Some simple expectations that may help you manage during the school's closure.

#### What students can do:

- Establish daily routines for engaging in learning (e.g. 8:30am start)
- Where possible, create a comfortable, quiet space in your home where you can work effectively and successfully
- Regularly check for announcements and feedback from your teachers
- Complete assignments doing your **best** work
- Do your best to meet timelines, commitments, and due dates
- Tell your teachers if you cannot meet deadlines or require additional support
- Always communicate in a respectful manner

#### What families can do:

- Establish study routines and expectations
- Define the physical space for your child's study

- Monitor how much time your child is spending online. You may want to limit this daily
- Begin and end each day with a 'check-in' (what's on the 'to do' list today ...?)
- Support your child to be responsible for their learning
- Establish clear times for quiet and reflection - many children may want to keep a journal, a record or diary of their thoughts, feelings or experiences
- Encourage physical activity and/or exercise - daily routines are important
- Be mindful of your child's stress or worry (and, of course, your own)
- Keep your children social, but set clear rules around their social media interactions from the beginning
- Remember to have some fun - learn a dance routine together, learn to cook something new, learn a poem by heart, read together, create a model or piece of art or a family tree or an 'all about my family' guide.

Remember that personal hygiene is the most important way we can tackle COVID-19.

I wish you all the very best of health and hope very much that business as normal resumes as soon as possible. Please take care, listen to advice and look after each other.

Kind regards



Mrs Haston

Head Teacher