

Spring
Term 2021

Durley CE Primary School

Newsletter 1

8 January 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to say an enormous **THANK YOU** to all of you this week, whether you have been trying to support your children's home learning whilst working yourself, trying to keep the interest going or bringing your children into school whilst you personally come face to face with the pandemic. I am also extremely grateful to our wonderful teaching staff this week who have put in a phenomenal number of hours sorting out the online learning (software and hardware) for children, reorganising the planning and responding to children's work. Our thanks also to our support staff for agreeing to be working in school at this challenging time.

I have had many very positive comments about our Christmas DVD with the KS1 nativity play, music concert and KS2 carol service. I have a couple of copies of the DVD left over. Please email the school office if you would like a copy free of charge.

This week we said goodbye to our assistant cook Sarah Gibbon. Sarah has worked with us for many years and will be very much missed by us all.



Last night I looked through all of the work sent in and felt very proud of the start the children have made and impressed with the quality. We now have 100% of our families signed up and we know the majority of our children are completing the work set. Thank you for your patience this week and support of each other. We want our children to continue to make good progress in their learning even though they are not able to be with us. Please remember to take a photo of your child's work and send it into Google Classrooms for your child's class teacher to be able to respond to it constructively.

Each week I will be posting whole school worship on a Monday and celebration worship each Friday at 3:00pm. I look forward to being able to share some of the fantastic work, photos and video clips and announce the children who have been awarded their dojo badges and certificates.

Google Classrooms

We are very grateful to the parents who have contacted us sharing difficulties they might be having at home, particularly with fitting online learning around their own pattern of working from home. As I have managed to explain to a few parents, we intend over the coming weeks to be introducing more of the programs features into our lesson planning.

At this stage, we do not intend to have any live teaching but we will be pre-recording clips and read through instructions, which will enable your child to independently pause, re-watch and replay the instructions when needed and for you to undertake the tasks at the family's convenience. We are looking forward to having online meetings with every class to enable children to regularly meet with their teacher or teaching assistant. We will endeavour to post the days work the previous evening to enable parents to look through the work if they wish, prior to their child's learning.

Finally we recognise that these are very challenging times for everyone and so please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any help.

Keep safe and kind regards

Kirstie Baines
Headteacher