

Email to parents 27.4.20

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you and your families remain well and safe.

Return to school

There is still no indication about when children will return to school. The media continue to speculate about dates and how it will be organised but there has been no official guidance about this. York Headteachers with the Local Authority are discussing this topic regularly and beginning to consider what will need to be in place to ensure that everyone is safe and the children receive the best support with their learning and wellbeing once schools re-open.

I understand that some parents (and children) are concerned that children may be 'behind' when they return. Please be reassured that children will be at different stages with their learning when they return and will have remembered / forgotten different information. Wherever they are – it's ok! Please do not worry.

Learning at Home

Thank you for all your amazing work supporting children with their learning at home. Just a reminder that teachers will put the plan for the week on clasdojo by Monday morning. This is also available from the class pages of [our website](#).

If you can't access dojo, please let us know by contacting stbarnabas@york.gov.uk. Teachers are reflecting on any feedback that you give them and adapting activities so please let them know how it's going or what you need. There are now more excellent teaching resources online with videos of lessons so if in doubt please do any of the age appropriate learning from:

BBC Bitesize - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Oak National Academy - <https://www.thenational.academy/information-for-parents-pupils/>

White Rose Maths - <https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/>

I am aware that many of you are struggling with a lack of devices for children to do online learning. We are trying to provide some paper based resources where these have been requested but the logistics of this are difficult. Please don't think that you have to print worksheets – children can just say the answers or write them on any bits of paper you have at home.

Picture News / Tuesday Newsday

The theme this week is Captain Tom Moore's fundraising activity. There is a poster and some prompts for discussion on [our website](#) (scroll down the page)

Phonecalls Home

Over the next few weeks, your child's teacher or another member of staff may phone to ask how your child is getting on and if you need any help. This call will show up as

'No Caller ID' and you won't be able to return the call. They will phone again if you aren't available. They will ask you if it's ok to have a quick chat with your child.

Financial Support

If your financial situation has changed, your child may be eligible for free school meals. This means that while schools are closed, you will receive supermarket vouchers to the value of £15 each week. If you think your child may be eligible please apply [here](#)

The Department for Education (DfE) has updated its guidance for parents to include information about pupils who are eligible for free devices and internet. This scheme is for children with social workers who do not have a device at home

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Finally..

Anne Williamson, our Chair of Governors has asked me to pass on her best wishes and thanks to you all.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact school on stbarnabas@york.gov.uk if you have any questions. We are missing you all and you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Kind regards

Miss K Boardman

Headteacher

You may be interested in the following websites / events / resources

Covent Garden Stories

www.coventgardenstories.com

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL3POPb56BkY1f966bqLCIxxkH3mLrXRHjI>

Amazing street performers read their favourite children's stories. We are releasing a new story every day until we run out of performers!

Attached – flyer about a science magazine for children aged 6-12