

Great Easton C of E (Aided) Primary School
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Headteacher: Claire Jackman

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Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you so much for the feedback regarding the home learning lessons. It was incredibly useful and was used as the basis for our staff meeting yesterday.

A big part of providing this is also to help you and create some more time for you to be able to work and get on with other things as much as possible. Please don't worry too much if your child hasn't completely understood the lesson and spend a long time re-visiting. We will do this at school, this is how lessons work and teachers plan how to re-visit and consolidate learning. If you want to ask the teacher for reassurance, please do and they can help with this.

Whilst we love to see updates and children's work on Dojo, if this is another job for you to complete and juggle then please don't feel you need to. This was initially so we could maintain contact and support but if we are seeing your child in the lessons and you are following the recorded lessons, only upload if you want to and it doesn't cause you any additional stress.

There was a very mixed view regarding whether live or pre-recorded lessons worked best. There were very good points made for both so we have decided to continue to provide a mixture, however we will be recording the live lessons so that children can watch these as recorded if they would prefer. You may need to work a day behind to do this, or do that lesson in the afternoon and have a bit of a switch about. Whilst teachers are uploading the lesson, they may be offline for a short while (depending on people's internet capabilities!) but they will be back again.

Teachers will endeavour to make sure they can be heard and will adjust writing on the board in various ways to ensure what they are demonstrating is clear.

The organisation of the files is a trickier one, but your requests have been noted. The worksheets are added as extras and teachers are not expecting parents to be able to print these off. You might like to write a few questions on a piece of paper if your child needs this, otherwise the expectation can be just to record an answer or some ideas.

Teachers will make sure it is very clear which resources will be needed for the lessons. The weekly plan will be shared on Sundays, so that parents have it ahead

of Monday. Some of the resources are only available to teachers from the Friday before. Both email and Dojo is used as we have some parents that only use one means and not the other - hopefully you should be able to find everything you need in one place though.

Both your feedback and teachers' feedback indicated that the afternoon zoom drop-in sessions haven't had much of a take up for various reasons. We would like to change this part of the day so that you contact your child's teacher via email or Dojo message to arrange a specific time and day for an afternoon zoom if you would like it. If no-one needs it, it means teachers can be planning and recording lessons for the next day rather than sitting on live 'just in case'!

We hope that, this way, we can provide more support for families if you need it, but also make the best use of teachers' time too. The teachers have all discussed the way they all manage waiting rooms and hope that this process will work more smoothly going forward.

We are aware of the struggles and effect that the lockdown is having on everyone and if your child needs a boost, please get in touch and we can use afternoons to try and help them. Teachers will be building in some ways to help with mindfulness, relaxation and other ways to engage children outside of the learning packs.

My thanks to you all again, your feedback was read in depth and this is only a summary of our discussion so not all bits have been noted here. I am sorry I have been unable to respond personally - I would love to, but as you can imagine, there is a lot to do at present. Your kind words and well wishes have been greatly appreciated and given me a real boost. My thanks too for your support and hard work in making all this possible. Please know we are behind you all the way and willing to think creatively about other ways to help. The LSA team are working hard with one to one support and catch ups too. If this is something your child would like to take advantage of, please let your class teacher know.

Do continue to keep in touch if you have further ideas and suggestions as we move into the second week - it has been huge learning-curve for everyone, but hopefully we are getting there!

With very best wishes

Claire