



Hyde Park Infant School

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Dear Parents,

Staff are really pleased to have spoken to most children (who are at home being supported by you) about their learning. The children have been really pleased to talk to their teacher and some of their classmates too. Please make every effort to join this 'chat' and reminders will be sent out to parents who failed to log their child in for this opportunity.

Online learning is being accessed fully or partially by the vast majority of parents and children and staff are busy communicating with you about this. A big well done! There are a small number of children who are not receiving any help at home and staff will be ringing you/emailing you so that you can offer access to learning for your child. This is really important as we do not want children falling behind and then finding it difficult to learn when it is time to return to school.

Head Teacher challenges

It has been delightful to receive children's contributions to the 'sandwich' challenge. I have received poems, pictures and videos and would like to congratulate everybody who took part. This week the challenge is about another poem by A A Milne called 'The Kings's Breakfast. I look forward to the children's creative responses.

Reading opportunities

In addition to the reading materials that you are accessing via Teams and Tapestry, our English Lead, Mrs Crawley would like to remind you of the following opportunities for online books. One involves our local Plymouth library service and the other is the Ilsham English Hub. Please follow the links below to access reading opportunities for your child.

Finding new, exciting books for your child is not easy during lockdown but there is a wide selection of downloadable books at Plymouth

Library <https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/libraries/ebooksandaudiobooks>. Existing library cards will enable you to borrow 8 titles at one time and keep them for up to 3 weeks. If you don't have a library card, it is easy to sign up online. All books are automatically returned so there is no danger of late fees! The Ilsham English Hub have compiled an excellent selection videos and guidance for supporting children with phonics and reading at home. <https://www.lapsw.co.uk/ilsham-english-hub/supporting-schools/>



Half Term

The school will close for half term as usual (both the Infant and the Junior Schools) meaning that there will be no Educare provision at school and no online home learning for the week beginning 15th February. For those key workers who are already accessing 'The Den' it will be possible to book with them for a holiday club but this is not open to other children at half term.

Therefore, can I ask all parents to make their usual arrangement for half term. **If** the DfE send out notification to the contrary, the schools will respond and inform you of the provision that may be possible to access and where that venue will be.

This week I watched the first episode of Winter Watch and was pleased to relax and delight in watching the wildlife and hear about the seasonal changes which gave me a much needed break from the News and the Covid situation. I would like to recommend that you watch it on catch up. Whatever you decide to do, I wish you a happy weekend.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E.A. Hill". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Mrs E A Hill
Head Teacher