



Dear Parents/Carers,

20.3.20

You are receiving this letter as the Government has now instructed that all schools must close for the foreseeable future. We will keep in contact with you by text and by email (via ParentPay) and you can contact us directly by email: hesleden@durhamlearning.net and we will get back in touch.

We have prepared a pack for every child of statutory school age. We have tried to make these relevant to their learning and hope they will provide some variety to keep the children engaged.

While we did not anticipate an 'indefinite' closure, and will be working to try to provide more resources and support in time, there are a number of starting points for tasks which can be done differently each time, as they can be done more than once. There should be more than enough ideas and activities to keep children going for a couple of hours each day, for a number of weeks, so please don't worry about rushing through everything straight away, or indeed finishing it all! The children have been shown their packs, so will know a little bit about what to do.

We have included an exercise book for children to record work, and there are a number of activity grids from which children can choose tasks. We would like books to be brought back to school on our return so that the children can share what they have done, including keeping a daily diary.

Topic information for each class showing current topics, and areas covered in maths and English is provided. This will help if your child can access resources such as:

- BBC Bitesize [<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>] or
- TopMarks [<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>]

where they can choose current topics or relevant games and online learning.

We will provide further links to online learning by email, or through our Twitter account; please follow us www.twitter.com/hesledenprimary and we will keep posting throughout the closure and invite you to post to us using @hesledenprimary so we can see what the children are up to.

Included is also:

- Lexia Reading login details (Reception to Year 6)
- Times Tables Rock Stars login details (Year 2 to Year 6)

In school, Classes 2-5 watch Newsround each day. There is a template sheet for children to give their opinion on the stories they see (similar to the discussions they have in class), if they get the opportunity to watch online, or on TV. Please help them to record this information in their workbook so that they can reuse the sheet.

An updated reading/topic activity sheet is also included for C2-5. This can be used with their current reading book, or other books and comics they may have at home. We would encourage you to please keep the children reading on a daily basis – we have explained to the children how very important this is.

We are very sad to be saying goodbye to the children at such short notice and for such a long time, but if you need to get in touch, please do so.

Take care and stay safe,

Mrs Dunn