

THE VICTORY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Executive Principal: Mr. J.Hartley
Head of School: Mrs K Jones
Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs V Gidney

19th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you very much for the support that you are giving your children with their remote learning. We are aware that, as a parent, it is not easy to make sure that your children join all lessons and pay attention all of the time so we appreciate what you are doing.

Last week we had 80% attendance for our remote lessons across the school which is quite high for a primary school, but we would like all children to attend if possible so that they keep up with their learning. This letter is intended to help the remote lessons to run more smoothly. We have attached our remote learning expectations along with some other things to consider.

Live Virtual Lessons Expectations for Pupils

School Account

When you log in, you must use your school username and password otherwise you will not be admitted into the lesson.

Be on time

Be ready to join the lesson before the start time. Make sure you have everything you need and make sure that your device has sufficient charge.

Mute yourself

When you enter the lesson, click the mute icon. This helps minimise background noise. Do not turn the volume on again unless your teacher invites you to speak.

Camera on
or off?

There will be times when your camera needs to be on and there will be times when you need to turn it off.

Listen to your teacher and do what she/he tells you to do.

Eliminate
distractions

Do your best to sit in a quiet place. Let your family know when you will be taking part in lessons so they can avoid interrupting you. Close all other tabs and windows unless they are needed for the lesson.

Neat
presentation

Consider your background and clothing. Try to sit in a part of the house where people will not be walking through and make sure you are wearing something appropriate for school - no pjs!

Chat
responsibly

Use the chat option to contribute to the lesson by writing comments and questions appropriate and relevant to the lesson.

Prepare to
share

If your teacher asks you a direct question, then unmute your microphone and share your contribution with the class. You can also share your screen if requested by your teacher.

Take notes

Make sure you have a pencil/pen and paper ready to write down any notes or ideas and to help you stay focused.

- **Timetables:** The timetables for home learning can be seen on our website and on our Facebook page. We will alert you if they change.
- **Technical issues:** If your child has a technical issue, please don't disrupt the lesson to tell the teacher, just log off, try re-entering and if you are still having problems write in the text box or email the IT team on: computingcurriculum@thevictory.portsmouth.sch.uk
- **Parents:** We really appreciate the support that parents give their children to help them to stay on task, however, please can parents avoid joining in the lessons themselves e.g. by asking/answering questions. If you have a question, your child can type it in to the chat box.
- **Behaviour:** So far behaviour has been good. If a child's behaviour is disturbing a lesson or they are not following an expectation of online learning, the teacher will address it. If a child ignores warning sit may be that will be rebuked directly. If the behaviour continues, parents/carers will be contacted by telephone.
- **Refreshments:** Please avoid eating and drinking when the camera is on.
- **Resources** - So far, we have distributed stationery including workbooks. On Friday we will start to distribute reading books for children up to year 3 and Maths equipment that will help support the home learning. For details of when you can pick up the materials check the school Facebook page or email: admin1@thevictory.portsmouth.sch.uk. Please make sure that the children treat the books and equipment with respect. The books, in particular, would be expensive to replace.
- **Feedback:** Feeding back to your child is an important part of your child's learning process. In order for your child's teacher to support your child's learning, please can you send them a photograph of your child's work via email at the end of their lesson. This will help your child's teacher see what your child has learnt and help them prepare for their next steps in learning.
- **Great job:** If your child really impresses you with an achievement at home, whether it is homework or another achievement, please photograph and email it to your child's teacher. We will choose some for Facebook and some to show in assembly.
- **Assembly:** Achievement assembly will take place at 1.45 on Fridays. The children will be sent a link. News of stars of the week will be posted on Facebook.
- **Chromebooks:** The third batch of Chromebooks are being distributed this week. If you have problems with your machine or accessing the remote learning please email this address: computingcurriculum@thevictory.portsmouth.sch.uk

Other things of interest

Half term holidays

We can confirm that we are not expecting schools to remain open to vulnerable children and children of critical workers over the half term break. The school will not be delivering home learning during the holiday.

Free school meals

The Free School Meals vouchers scheme re-started on Monday. Parents of pupils who are at school have had a text asking if they want vouchers or hot meals which they have responded to. Most vouchers have been redeemed. Look for an email from Edenred - check your junk mailbox if it doesn't arrive soon.

It is looking increasingly likely that we will be providing FSM vouchers for the period of the half term holiday. FSM More details will follow.

Staff Testing

The testing of school staff for Covid 19 is due to start next week. So far there is no news to suggest that primary age children will be routinely tested.

Chromebooks

The third batch of Chromebooks were distributed this week. If you have problems with your machine or accessing the remote learning please email this address:

computingcurriculum@thevictory.portsmouth.sch.uk

Email Addresses

Now, more than ever, we are communicating with families via email. We now have more than 90% of parents'/carers' email addresses. If you have not been receiving emails from us, it will be because we don't have your email address or because the address we have is wrong.

If this is the case, please can you email your details to admin1@thevictory.portsmouth.sch.uk
Don't forget to include your child's name in the message.

Need some help?

At school we will always help if we can, but we are not the experts in everything.

Here are some useful contacts:

Debbie Silk-Early Help 07572 103566. She offers video calls during lockdown for any parenting support required.

The Hive in Portsmouth 023 9261 6709 can help with financial worries e.g. concerns about job losses

Paulsgrove Family Hub can be contacted via the phone 023 9238 5995.

The charity Solent Mind has created a wellbeing app which can be downloaded free, and they have a Coronavirus wellbeing helpline which is 023 8017 9049, open Monday to Friday 8am to 9am and 5pm to 8pm, and 9am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday.

Yours Sincerely



Mr J Hartley
Executive Headteacher