



Worplesdon Primary School – Weekly Update

Friday 12th February, 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

It seems very strange to think that we have been online learning for six weeks now; your children have worked really hard and we continue to be impressed with their resilience and perseverance.

In English this week, we have continued looking at biographies and have linked this to our History topic of the Tudors. We have been researching and exploring an additional paragraph to add to the existing biography of Elizabeth I. If your child has not completed the history lessons this term, we would recommend going back and looking at these to support the historical context of the English lessons.

In maths, we continuing to look at fractions. We are encouraging children to look at and spot the links between pictorial representations of fractions as well as using their tables to convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions. Just a reminder, that if you are printing support resources such as fraction walls, we recommend keeping them available for the duration of the unit of work as these types of resources will be really helpful in supporting understanding.

After the half term break, we will be beginning a unit of art that involves printing. We will give you plenty of warning ahead of the lesson, but for those who like to be fully prepared, we will be asking children to complete the printing element of this at home using a potato and some paint if you have this available. We will post reminders about this on the stream of Google Classroom, in the lesson itself and within this weekly email closer to the time.

This week, we have looked at how technology can affect sleep patterns and have encouraged children to consider altering routines to ensure they get enough sleep. In her assemblies, Mrs O'Brien often refers to Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs and the children recognise the importance of sleep. We have explored how technology, especially in today's world, can affect sleep patterns and the things they can do to combat this.

We fully recognise that you are all continuing to do an amazing job supporting your children are home. In school, we are constantly looking for ways to further support our learners at home. We give regular feedback from class teachers and TAs and are always on hand to answer online questions. Please can you remind your child to read the feedback given and respond as needed. We do not expect everyone to complete everything. As a guide, Maths, English and Foundation Subjects should take 40-60 minutes to complete including watching any videos and reading PPTs. Spellings are 5-10 minutes a day and Guided Reading is 20-30 minutes a day. We provide work to suit all ranges of ability and certainly do not expect everyone to complete everything – please do what you can within these guidelines and remember to Hand In when the work is completed or we don't see it!

Please can we also ask you to remind children to carefully read the instructions. We received lots of comments this week about people being unable to see things on a PPT, yet the instructions asked for the PPT to be viewed in slideshow mode, which enabled the text to be seen. We are more than happy to help out and answer questions, but it is even more helpful if children are encouraged to read the instructions first.

After Half Term, we will be continuing with live lesson, but encourage you and your child to check the weekly overview for which subject we are teaching live as this will be changing in the first week back after half term.

We would also like to remind children that if the fire alarm sounds during a live lesson, they need to immediately log out of the live lesson. We ask that they give it 5 minutes, then try to log back into the live lesson as hopefully, it is just a fire drill. Teachers are unable to leave a live lesson when there are still children in the meet and therefore, if it were a real fire, would need to remain longer in the building. Children will be unable to return to the live meet unless the teacher is present.



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For those with children in school, please can you spend a moment with your child checking to see if they need to replace any items in their pencil cases. Many children are finding that glue sticks, green biro's and whiteboard pens are running low or have already run out. It would greatly help us if you were able to restock any items that are needed.

Finally, may I remind you that, as per Mrs O'Brien's newsletter, those children attending school will need to be in full school uniform after half term. This includes wearing a warm PE kit uniform on Wednesday for Year 5 as this is our PE day.

Thank you again for all of your understanding and support. If you have any worries, concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Have a lovely half term break.

The Year 5 Team

Miss Hines, Mr Kennedy and Mrs Reed