



16 October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly with our God**

As we approach half term, I am writing to let you all know about changes in the school procedures from 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Thank you all for your responses and comments to our survey of the COVID 19 Risk Assessment. They have been collated and used together with discussions held with the governing body and school staff.

There are many successes of the school procedures that we have followed since re-opening in September, and the principles that have underpinned these successes are highlighted here:

- Keeping 'bubbles' small (30), so that:
  - Contact between groups is controlled,
  - Smaller number of children are required to self-isolate in the event of a positive test result,
  - Allocated playground areas to be established.
- Keeping adult to adult contact to a minimum, through:
  - Using email and telephone for contact with the school office,
  - Asking all adults to wear a face covering whilst on school site,
  - Using the one way system and not remaining on site after dropping off/picking up children.
- Robust hygiene procedures including
  - Handwashing and sanitising,
  - Extra cleaning of classrooms, toilets and the school hall.

There have been pressures on the school and parents in this time, most noticeably – staggered drop off and pick up times, no wrap around care and no hot lunches.

So, in response to these pressures and following our review, please find below some changes to the school procedures taking affect from 2 November 2020.

- **Hot Lunches** will be served to children in **Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2**,
- **Start and finish times** will be **adjusted** to reduce time between year groups,
- **Alpha Club** will be able to provide before and after school provision for **30 children**

I would also add that because of the measures taken the Royal Borough of Greenwich has the third lowest number of cases per 100,000 in London, so it is important to maintain

our approach and stay within our principles listed above, keeping our level of risk as low as possible as we initiate these changes. Therefore, here is how we are planning to implement the following:

### **Hot Lunches to EYFS and KS1**

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be able to be served a hot lunch as part of Universal Infant Free School Meals. That means that children in North, Corbett, Bek, Mills, Tarn and Archery Classes will be taken from their classrooms, to the hall where they will have their meal served to them in one of three allocated areas in the school hall.



They will remain in their class bubble and be taken to the playground after eating. During which the tables will all be cleaned and sanitised, new cutlery brought out from the kitchen and trays prepared for the next class.

We will review this system and look to try and incorporate more year groups as soon as possible. But from 2 November, children in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 will continue to require packed lunches.

Nursery children who receive 30 hours of provision will have their own seating arrangements within the hall and will be escorted to and from the hall.

### **Adjusted Start and Finish Times**

To reduce the time between year groups, and to ensure that parents are not required to linger on the school site (thus increasing risk of spread between adults) as well as support

the views of parents regarding mingling between households and observing social distancing guidance. We will be operating the following start and finish times from Monday 2 November.

The start and finish times for children will be as follows

- **8:30 – 15:00 for Reception and Year 1 children.**
- **8:40 – 15:10 for Year 2 and Year 3 children.**
- **8:50 – 15:20 for Year 4 and Year 5 children.**
- **9:00 – 15:30 for Year 6 children.**
  
- **Nursery will continue 8:30 – 11:30, 12:30 – 15:30.**

The 'one way system' has been a success, furthermore the parent survey highlighted strongly the view that parents **must** support the procedures and minimise the risk of spreading the virus through;

- **Leaving the site promptly**, and not stay on site if you have collected all of your children,
- Observing social distancing when on site, **including** supervising children and not inadvertently promoting 'cross bubble' interaction,
- Supporting the school's measure that all adults **wear face coverings** on the school site.

### **Alpha Club Providing Before and After School Provision**

The school's Governing Body has agreed to Alpha returning from 2 November provided that:

- A full risk assessment has been undertaken,
- The number of children in each 'bubble' is no more than 15,
- There is three separate bubbles (R&1, 2&3, 4,5&6) that are closely aligned to class bubbles,
- That parents understand that their child by attending Alpha Childcare, and therefore in two bubbles, have increased the child's risk of exposure to the virus.
- It is understood that children who attend Alpha because of the increased exposure, have therefore increased the potential of self-isolation.

### **The School's Curriculum**

Throughout this term, the children have continued to receive a targeted 'recovery curriculum' to support every child returning after the school closure. But also, there have been a number of WOW days;

- Digestion – Y4
- Celebrating Diversity and challenging stereotypes – Y4
- Water harvesting – Y6
- India – Y2
- Plants and growth – Y3
- Doctors and Nurses – YR
- Kings and Queens – Y1

A further 4 WOW days are planned for next week alongside our continuing celebration of difference and diversity including the contributions and lives of the Black and Ethnic Minority community to our lives today, Black History Month and 'Show Racism the Red Card'.

Whilst writing this, the Government has announced that London Boroughs have been moved to Tier 2 'higher' and as such this means that we as a school community must be self-disciplined and support the guidance and protecting one another at this difficult time.

So it is also timely to remind parents about our remote learning policy a copy of which can be found by following [this link](#).

One area of learning that we can thrive with during this time is reading. Please can I encourage all families to use this time of restrictions to re-ignite reading with one another. All children benefit from reading aloud to you as often as possible. But by the time they are in Years 5 or 6, many children prefer to read quietly to themselves. Create quiet opportunities for them to do so, but then talk to them about the book they are reading.

### **Sharing reading**

When sharing a book with your child, try to take opportunities to talk about the book – before, during and after reading.

**Before reading:** look at the book cover and talk about your child's expectations. Is the book likely to be fiction or non-fiction? Have you read other books together about these characters or by this author? What does your child think the book is going to be about?

**While reading:** support your child when unknown words need tackling: you can sound them out, split them into syllables, or identify suffixes and prefixes. Remind your child to listen to the words while reading them, to make sure that they make sense. Have a 'meaning check' every now and again to ensure that your child understands the text.

**After reading:** talk about the book. What was it about? Did it match your child's expectations? Ask questions beginning with the words how and why to check that your child has been able to read between the lines. Ask whether anything seemed puzzling. Then ask your child to explain what the best and worst bits of the book were, and why.

We also set books and spelling, punctuation and grammar activities via **Bug Club**. Children will have books allocated to them, relative to their reading abilities and I have outlined below a reminder on how to access Bug Club

So in conclusion, thank you all for your continued support and please do not hesitate to catch myself or Mrs Rhodes on the gate each day if you have anything that you would like clarified.

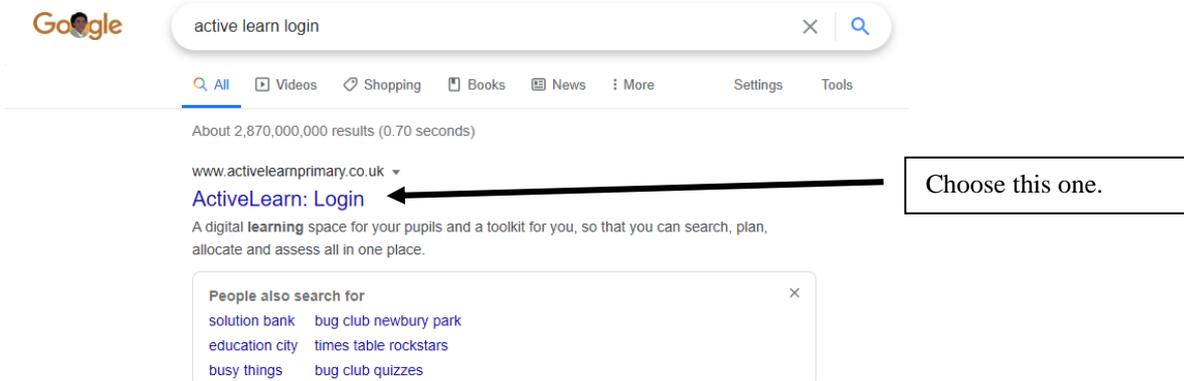
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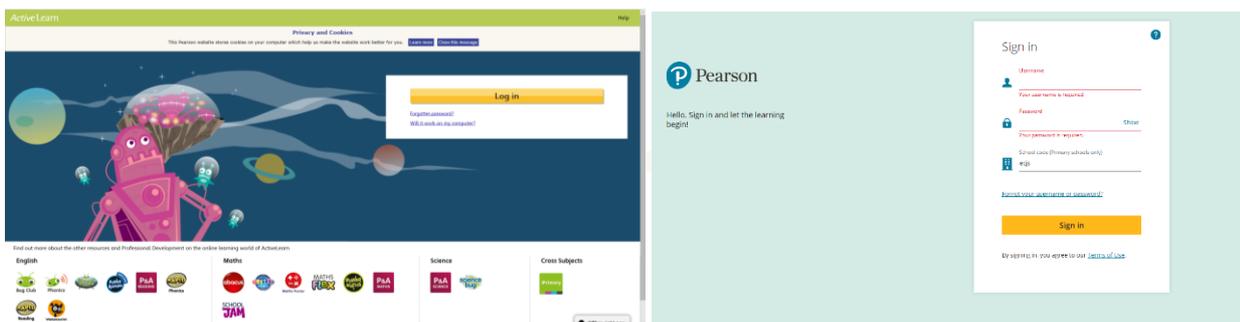
Matthew Bulpitt  
Headteacher

## Using Bug Club

In Google type in 'active learn' and then choose the one shown below.



This will take you to the log in page. Enter your child's username, password and 'ecjs' for the school code. Please ask your child's class teacher if they don't have their log-in details.



This will take you to the home page. Your child can change their home screen by hovering over the Home tab at the top of the screen. They can choose bug, race or future world.

To read a book and earn some active points click on the 'my stuff' tab and you will see a list of books that your child can read. **Teachers will allocate one book per week to read.**



To open a book just click on the one your child would like to read and it will open. You can choose to have the book read to your child or read it themselves. Throughout the book there are 'bugs' to click on and answer some questions to earn active points. When the bug is answered return to the book to complete it. Some bugs require a written response which teachers can see and analyse. At the end of the book you will be able to see if all bugs have been answered and then asked to add a smiley face depending on whether your child enjoyed it or not.



Look out for these bugs throughout the book.

You will notice there is a bug tab and there may be a grammar and spelling tab in the 'my stuff' tab. The books are held under the bug tab but active points can also be earned in the grammar and spelling tab.



Look out for spelling and grammar activities.

In this tab there may be a video to watch to explain a rule and then games to play that are based on grammar or spelling strategies.

In the 'my library' tab you will find the books that your child has already read that can be reread if they want to read them again. You don't earn any more points here though.

**Please record in your child's reading record the bug club book they read each week so the teacher/TA knows your child is reading regularly.**

In the 'my rewards' tab the children can choose 3 different screens to play games and spend their active points in. They can do races in the pit stop, collect stickers in the sticker factory and add items to a tree house. Let your child explore these screens and they will soon get the hang of it.