



# HEADS UP

6

THURSDAY 19 MARCH 2020



We have put together the final arrangements for the closure of school from Monday.

All children will be asked to take home pencil cases and any writing equipment needed for remote learning home tomorrow, as well as P.E kits etc. Year 6 will be asked to take all belongings home in the event that school is not open again until they move on to secondary school. The only children who will be coming into school until further notice will be children of key frontline workers who have no adults at home to look after children whilst at work. Each of these families have been contacted directly.

## Home learning

Every child has a Google Classroom account, which is where their daily work will be set (instructions for Google Classroom will be posted on the school website). To support ease of access for children please could all families download the free Google Classroom App or if using computers, ensure that Google Chrome is easily accessible. Children must check their account each morning as work will be set by 9am.

Each child will be required to complete the following each day (Essential):

- 1 Maths activity (30 mins)
- 1 English activity (30 mins)
- Reading (30 mins)
- Times tables practice (15 mins)
- Project work (30 mins)

In addition to this, teachers will post optional activities that children can complete if they wish.

We would ask that daily essential tasks (except the project work if not completed) be completed by 8pm each day to allow teachers to complete the marking over a 24 hour period (where possible). Project work can be uploaded by the end of the project period.

## Reading

The children will also be bringing home 3 library books. They will be able to complete their tests online once read using Accelerated Reader, as they do in school. We are at present trying to work out a system where in a few weeks we will open the library for set periods of time for children to change books. There is also a recommended reading list on the website (listed under 'For Parents', 'Homework Help'), together with the Kitaboo link which provides access to thousands of e-books free of charge.

Teachers will be closely monitoring children's completion of home learning. It is a government expectation that all children are actively home learning and therefore we would need to speak to parents about any problems if this was not being completed.

If you experience any problems with the home learning please email [chjschool@cunninghamhill-jun.herts.sch.uk](mailto:chjschool@cunninghamhill-jun.herts.sch.uk). This will be monitored by the SLT.

Obviously this is a challenging time for all of us and our primary concern is to ensure that children are able to remain engaged in learning and a daily structure will support them in getting through this period in the most positive way possible. A positive way forward to start home learning could be to agree a daily timetable for completing work, interspersed with rest breaks and time for physical activity (a run around in the garden, children's exercise routines - suggestions on the website via Facebook). We would recommend that you don't try to completely replicate the school day as this may prove hard work for all concerned. We understand that there will be pressures at home, especially when families have more than one child to support with home learning and we would like to offer as much support as possible. This way of remote learning will also be very new for teachers so we do ask you to bear with us as we navigate this new world!

There will be a lot of time for children to fill at home and one concern we do have is unmonitored access to the internet and social media. There is a lot of scaremongering and inappropriate content on line and we would like to ensure that all our children are kept safe in terms of e-safety. Year 5 and 6 have access to Go Bubble which is a safe social media platform for them to stay in contact with their friends and not feel socially isolated.

If anybody has any serious concerns or information they need to contact the school please use the school email address: [admin@cunninghamhill-jun.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cunninghamhill-jun.herts.sch.uk). You should also be able to phone the school during working hours.

We will continue to update parents whenever we have new information about schools by email and on Facebook.

Lastly, we would like to thank all parents for their kind words and support at this trying time and we hope you all are able to stay safe and well.

Ms Elbourne-Cload