



## Spring Grove Primary School

### Parent Bulletin 2

29 April 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Thank you all for the support that you are offering your children in terms of their home schooling. This is a tricky situation for all of us to manage and I am very impressed by how our Spring Grove families are responding to the challenges presented.

At Spring Grove, we are using Google Classroom as our learning platform and class work is set and uploaded to this each week. We are not trying to replicate school at home – we appreciate that home schooling circumstances are different for all of our families and our aim is to provide tasks and activities that both continue to develop the learning of your child as well as excite and engage them. As we move further into this period of home schooling we are trying to refine and make clear our system and approach. From the outset I would like to emphasise that the most important consideration at this time is the health and well-being of your family. Younger children especially may do the tasks at a different time and if they catch up with it at a later stage that is also fine. Please do not get stressed or anxious about this; we are all in the same situation and every child is different and will respond to it in a different way. Older pupils should get into the habit of completing their work on time and handing it in. They are able to communicate with their teacher via Google Classroom if they are struggling with tasks set.

#### Online Learning

- Class teachers are uploading activities on specific days for pupils to complete and “turn in” (this is Google Classroom speak for hand in!).
- All classes are set a daily maths activity.
- All classes are set reading and writing activities.
- Activities are also given that relate to science and other topic-based work.
- Optional activities are also provided and these can be completed by the children or you may prefer to provide an activity of your own.
- Tasks can be completed and uploaded straight on to Google classrooms. Some tasks can be completed in the Home Workbooks that were provided. This is however, a valuable opportunity for pupils (and teachers) to develop their technical skills and confidence and where possible we would like to see our school community attempting to use Google Classroom as the method of handing in work.
- Tasks completed are acknowledged by either the class teacher or teaching assistant. Your child will also receive feedback on selected pieces of work.



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### Google Meet

As we become more confident with the technology, we will start to use the Google Meet feature regularly as a way of seeing and talking to the children. There are some rules that we expect the children to adhere to and we would appreciate your support in talking through these with your child.

- When on a Meet the child is to be in a shared space in their home, rather than in their bedroom.
- Pupils to be dressed in day clothes – no pyjamas
- Parent or responsible adult should be nearby when child is on a Meet.
- Parents to be mindful that other children on the Meet will be able to see them and anything in the background.
- When entering the meet, turn the speaker to mute. You will still be able to hear what the teacher is saying. When asked to speak by the teacher you will need to unmute your speaker.
- Pupils only need to turn camera on if they wish to – it is a personal choice and they may prefer to turn it off.
- Do not use the Chat feature to write messages whilst in a Meet unless given permission by your teacher to do so.
- When talking, use respectful language and talk as if you were in your classroom at school.
- Google Meet should not be used by children unless their teacher or teaching assistant is present.

### For KS2 children:

Please be mindful of any chat sites your children are using. These are very valuable means of communication if used sensibly. Please talk with your child about what they use and what they are doing to keep themselves safe online.

Visit the following link for the latest advice for parents:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

Social Media advice for popular sites such as TikTok

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/social-media-guides>

Roblox guide for parents

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/roblox-guide-parents>

Finally, I wanted to share a poem with you that I feel is very apt for the present time. It has been written by Khalil Gibran and is called Rainbow.

***If I could catch a rainbow  
I would do it just for you.  
And share with you its beauty  
On the days you're feeling blue.***



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*If I could build a mountain  
You could call your very own.  
A place to find serenity  
A place to be alone.*

*If I could take your troubles  
I would toss them in the sea.  
But all these things I'm finding  
Are impossible for me,*

*I cannot build a mountain  
Or catch a rainbow fair  
But let me be ... what I know best,  
A friend that's always there.*

Spring Grove families, we are in this together and here at school we will support you however we can. The staff and myself are all so proud of how the children are coping and behaving – this is due to the wonderful support that you as their family are providing. THANK YOU.

Until we can all be back at school together again, stay well and stay safe.

Warmest wishes,

Susan Colley  
Headteacher