



# Coombe Bissett Primary

## Newsletter 7 (start of Term 3)



### JANUARY LOCKDOWN

Welcome back to a very challenging Term 3 for parents and schools. We sympathize immensely with the challenges parents face and we continue to do all that is practical and feasible to support home learners whilst supporting those in schools as well.

During this 3<sup>rd</sup> Lockdown we will continue to evolve certain provisions, details of these will be issued as and when they become available by email or by Google classroom / Tapestry.

For now, please see the 'January Lockdown Plan' for full details that included:

- Additional resources were made available for collection at set times today
- Arrangements for exchanging books

If you have not yet signed up for Google classroom in Elm, Fir and Ash we strongly advise you to do so. All the home learning comes via these. There are some great new features staff will be learning how to use that may be rolled out during the coming weeks.

Look out for further information soon about home learning regarding PE lessons, Music lessons and Collective Worship (including singing).

For all those who are home learning please look to our advice on the January Lockdown Plan that states:

“We would strongly encourage you to prioritise the daily Reading Spine (30mins) Phonics or SPAG (20mins), Maths (30mins to 1hr), English (30mins to 1hr) as well as daily reading with your child and the weekly homework. Anything more is a bonus.”

Remember that each and every child is different, and will respond to home learning in different ways. Each family can offer different opportunities, depending on their circumstances. One family will have a skill, a learning opportunity that another will not. And this is absolutely fine. In some ways your child who is home learning has opportunities to access other avenues of learning not available in school – such as cooking, walks, and a massive amount of 1:1 time.

Please be good to yourselves, protect your mental health and that of your amazing children by not seeing this as a competition or an insurmountable challenge and by not struggling on for fear of what others might think. It is OK to find something difficult. The school is here to help if we can and within our remit, and so are the other parents in our wonderful community who can share great ideas with each other (and indeed there were so many wonderful ideas shared before). We will help each other to get through this, just as we did in Lockdown 1...together.

---

The latest school newsletter can always be found on our website using the following link

<http://www.coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk/>

Email the school at [admin@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk)

Call the school on 01722 718380

## VALUE FOR LIFE

This term our Value for Life is COMMITMENT.

We will be exploring the following aspects:

- Run the race of life that lies before us
- Do unto others as you would have them do to you
- A friend is always loyal
- Always do your best
- Show proper respect to everyone
- Encourage one another and build each other up

As part of this every child (in school and at home) is being encouraged to set themselves 3 resolutions – goals to achieve in Term 3.

1 = a learning power goal – what aspect of the 9 learning powers they will work on.

2 = a personal qualities goal – what aspect about themselves as a person they will work on, such as: patience, helpfulness, caring, kindness, organization, charity, positivity, hope, resilience, managing frustrations, managing competitiveness.

3 = a ‘home’ skill / knowledge – such musical instrument, walking, cooking, scootering / riding a bike as skills they can develop.

For each one they will identify 3 actions they can regularly take each week to ‘build the habit’ for a successful resolution. Each week they will then ‘tick off’ which actions they have done, aiming to achieve 6 ticks for each of the 3 actions in each of the 3 areas.

---

## COVID ARRANGEMENTS

If parents or children become symptomatic or have a positive COVID test please follow the Public Health England Track and Trace guidelines and also notify the school via the school office email: [office@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:office@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk)

Please remember to keep each other, and our staff safe, whilst on the school playground by:

- Not attending if there are symptoms in your household
- Keeping good hygiene standards
- Keeping 2m social distancing from parents and staff – please do not cross the boundaries set up outside classrooms, the hall, the office. If this becomes an issue, we will have to follow the lead of other schools and have drop-off / collection at the school gate.

---

## THIS CHRISTMAS – VALUE FOR LIFE CHALLENGE

Thank you to Ted Pendleton for his very creative response to the challenge – truly wonderful. If any parents have things their child did regarding BELIEF, please send a picture of it to the school office email.

---

The latest school newsletter can always be found on our website using the following link

<http://www.coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk/>

Email the school at [admin@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk)

Call the school on 01722 718380

## CRITICAL WORKERS / VULNERABLE CHILDREN

This Lockdown the critical worker / vulnerable children list has been significantly extended. This is causing huge problems for some schools. As a result, the DfE has issued guidelines as follows:

**"Parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can. "**

Also the DfE Guidance advises schools that they should offer a place to all critical worker / vulnerable children and that there is no limit on class sizes (as there was in Lockdown 1 – even though there is now a more transmissible variant of the virus) but have advised schools that if they have staffing / space limitations then they can prioritise the places they can offer to critical workers as follows:

- NHS and Care
- Education
- Key public services

Furthermore, if there are households where there are both parents who are critical workers then these can be prioritized over those households with only 1 parent.

The Independent SAGE group has recommended that the government narrow the definition of key workers and increase furlough support for people to bring down the number of pupils attending school during the new national lockdown. The panel, chaired by former chief scientific adviser Sir David King, said today: "Infections will continue to circulate among essential workers and in classrooms where a high percentage of children are still attending school."

Some schools have already begun to prioritize places. We are very close to having to prioritize because of the numbers we have in some classrooms. As such we are issuing a form to those who have already informed us they are critical workers. Please complete and email back to the school office as soon as possible. If you have yet to inform us you believe you are eligible please request this form from the school office so that we can manage numbers.

---

## PARENT / TEACHER CONSULTATIONS

Thank you to all those parents who have signed-up for the Spring Term Parent / Teacher Consultation the 2<sup>nd</sup> week back in January. If you have not been able to sign-up yet, please contact the office for the remaining timeslots.

These will continue as planned, at the timeslots booked, but via the phone.

The numbers calling will be: the school office 01722 718380 or one of the 3 school mobile numbers used in Lockdown 1: 07561 695797, 07783 349500, 07761 684212.

---

The latest school newsletter can always be found on our website using the following link

<http://www.coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk/>

Email the school at [admin@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk)

Call the school on 01722 718380