



**Pauntley Church of England Primary School**

# **NEWSLETTER**

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021



## ***Our termly Value: Courage***

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

***Deuteronomy 31:6-8***

Dear Parents/Carers

We have made it through another half term and once again I know that everyone must be looking forward to half term and a break from home schooling. I know I do this every week, but once again I want to say a huge thank you for supporting the school with its decisions during this period. I know life has been tough but with your help we really are doing all we can to help minimise the spread of this awful virus.

It was so nice to see so many of you at Worship on Thursday – Now we have found a reliable way to deliver this I will endeavour to send out links weekly for you to join. This will resume after half term.

School resumes for those children that have been allocated a space prior to half term on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Additional Home school packs, if required, will be available to pick up from Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

### **Track and Trace Responsibilities Over Half Term**

Once again schools have been asked to help with our track and trace responsibilities we now have a dedicated email for reporting positive cases during the holiday period; [COVIDreporting@newentfed.org](mailto:COVIDreporting@newentfed.org) - This email will be checked daily, until Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February.

The DfE have asked schools to make school families aware of the following arrangements regarding positive cases in the holidays.

- Where a pupil or staff member **tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours since being in school, (up until 3:30pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February) the school should be contacted. On our dedicated Covid email: [COVIDreporting@newentfed.org](mailto:COVIDreporting@newentfed.org)**
- Where a pupil or staff member **tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school (after 3:30pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February), the school should not be contacted.** Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

If we are informed that a pupil or staff member has developed symptoms and tested positive for coronavirus within 48 hours after teaching ends we will send an email and text notification to inform the relevant children/staff of their need to self-isolate.

I am hoping for all our school and staff families that we can enjoy a healthy restful half term and avoid any of our families having to self-isolate over this period.

### **Additional Remote Learning Materials**

Coming out today, alongside the usual timetable for remote learning are a few added extras. We recognise that the current offer is heavily reliant on screen time and wanted to provide a few alternatives to allow children to spend time off-screen as well. It also gives some breathing room for those families with multiple siblings and limited devices. These are supplementary and there is **no expectation** that these should be completed as well as all the other work set. They provide practise work that children should be able to mostly access independently.

For those that are currently happy with the provision please do not feel you need to complete these activities as well; likewise, for those that are, like many others around the country, struggling to get through the current workload please continue to do what you can and do not feel any pressure to complete these additional activities as well.

Remember, if children do complete work please share with class teachers as they would love to see it and have the opportunity to provide feedback.

### **Goodbyes**

This week Miss Bruce leaves the school having done a fantastic job in very trying circumstances. She has really helped provide a level of consistency and embraced Pauntley life and become a valued member of the team. We really do wish her well as she moves on.

Mrs Jones will take on her role as Mayhill class teacher and Assistant Head teacher from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February and we are all really excited about her joining our school community. For pupils in Mayhill please submit work to the following email address :- [jjones@pauntley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:jjones@pauntley.gloucs.sch.uk) from this date.

### **Internet Safety**

After this week's focus on internet safety we thought the following may be helpful:

The BBC have a website and app called [Own It](#). The website has a lot of content for children to help them navigate their online lives, and the free smartphone app comes with a special keyboard which can intervene with help and support in the moments that children need it the most. It can be downloaded for free in the Google Play Store and Apple App Store.

[SafeToNet](#) is an app for parents to help them safeguard their children from online risks like cyberbullying and sexting, whilst always respecting their child's rights to privacy. The SafeToNet Foundation is providing UK families with free-for-life access to the SafeToNet safeguarding solution during coronavirus.

**Mr T Larner**  
**Headteacher**

**Christian Distinctiveness Committee**

I have been talking to a few parents regarding the school's status as a Church School and would like to set up a parent group that helps to monitor and develop this important side to our schools ethos. The group would meet termly, when we are able to, to discuss what is going on and how things can be improved for the children.

We are looking for a small group of keen individuals that are willing to give up a little of their time to discuss these matters. The role will involve a minimum of three visits to school; talking with the children and maybe doing some research of other Church schools to see what we can bring to Pauntley to further enhance our provision.

High on the agenda will be:

- Developing the outdoor worship space
- Looking at the school environment and how to ensure this promotes a strong Christian ethos
- Monitoring the impact of worship

If you are interested please send me an email at [head@newentfed.org](mailto:head@newentfed.org) before half term. We will be looking to meet virtually, in the first instance, early next term to discuss our plans.

Many thanks.

**Joke of the Week**

*What kind of training do you need to be a good litter picker?  
None – you just pick it up as you go along!*

*Why did the sword swallower only swallow half of the sword?  
Because he was having a mid-knife crisis!*