



South Gosforth First School

'Roots to grow and wings to fly'

Dear Parents & Carers

I just wanted to pass on a couple of key messages which have cropped up over the last couple of days:

Reading

We are currently busy re-assessing the children in school on their phonics, 'Reading Rockets' and carrying out the Salford reading test check. This will give us some important new baseline assessment information which will help us to allocate appropriate home reading books to our children. It is obviously important that for our younger children in EYFS and KS1 that they are given books which directly correspond to their phonics ability as this is how our pupils learn to read and write. We should have all of this information collated very soon and will therefore be looking to give out appropriate home reading books out to our pupils next week. Please do bear in mind that in light of our children just coming back after a long time away from the classroom, some of them may have fallen behind on their phonics skills and reading ability and it may be necessary for us to allocate them home reading books at a phase which they have been through previously. It is imperative that we ensure that our children are absolutely secure on their phonics before moving them to their next phase, therefore this may be appropriate for some of our learners. It isn't something for parents and carers to worry about and we hope that this would not be long before these children moved up the phonics phases again.

Homework

From Friday 25th September, we will be sending out 'Homework Activity Timetables' via email for our children in Reception and Y1 and via 'Seesaw' for our children in Year 2, 3 and 4. These timetables will outline a range of short activities for your pupils to do at home which consolidate the learning that they have been doing in school. None of these activities will be paper-based - We would encourage our children to upload their responses either via 'Tapestry' (Reception and Y1 children) or 'Seesaw' (Y2, Y3 and Y4). More specific information will be given on these timetable sheets, along with some possible ideas for how the children could share their learning using these online platforms.

Spelling

From this Friday, each year group from Y1 to Y4 will receive a set of spellings and a spelling book in their book bags. These spellings are to be learned at home as part of the 'Homework Activity Timetables'. Children will have a short spelling quiz / challenge in school the following Friday. We very much recognise that this is early days back at school for many of our children so please just do your best to help your children learn these at home as best as you can.

Pupil Premium Children & Lunches

Please note that if any of our 'Pupil Premium' families whose children are entitled to free school meals have to self isolate for issues relating to COVID-19, but will require food in lieu of what their child would have been receiving in school, please do let school know through phoning the school office and we can come up with an arrangement to get food packages to you. Please note that this does not relate to 'Universal Free School Meal' families in Key Stage 1.

Warmest wishes to all

Mr Adams

Alnmouth Drive, South Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 1YF
Telephone: 0191 2853453 Email: admin@southgosforth.newcastle.sch.uk
www.southgosforth.newcastle.sch.uk



Head Teacher: Mr R Adams



This correspondence is available in audio, Braille or large print if required. Please contact us to arrange this.