

Friday, 22nd January 2021

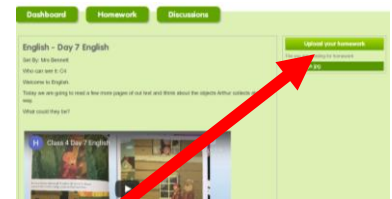
Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the end of the third week of the current half term, I'd like to offer my thanks to all members of our school community for their combined efforts in supporting the pupils of the school. We know that the current arrangements will remain in place for now. In a recent letter to schools and colleges, the Secretary of State for Education stated that plans for the return to school are being kept 'under continuous review' and that a return to face to face education will return 'as soon as possible'. We are expecting an update ahead of the February half term.

Home Learning

Thank you for continuing to support your child's remote learning and for collecting the new home learning packs from school. It was lovely to see you and thanks for sticking to your times for a safe, socially distanced collection! I was pleased to hear how well the children are working away from school.

Levels of engagement across the school are very high and we are seeing lots of work being uploaded each day onto the [Learning Platform](#). Please remember to use the '**Upload your homework**' button when your child is submitting work; this way, teachers can find it easily and provide feedback.



We are aware that some of you have experienced technical problems with devices, while others are needing to work extra hard to keep their children motivated each day! Please remember that you are all doing really well in the most difficult of circumstances and that we can offer support if this is needed. Accept that some days are going to be better than others; that's exactly how it would be in school! We will continue to monitor how well the children are engaging and we may contact you if we don't hear from you.

Contacting the School

Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help. If you need to make contact with your child's teacher about remote learning, please use the class email addresses below. Any other enquiries may be directed to the school office (sec.halebank@halton.gov.uk) or to me (head.halebank@halton.gov.uk). At the current time, the office is largely unstaffed, so making contact via email is best.

| Class | Class Teacher/s | Email Address |
|---------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Class 1 | Mrs Power | class1@halebank.halton.sch.uk |
| Class 2 | Mrs Draper | class2@halebank.halton.sch.uk |
| Class 3 | Mrs Eley/Mrs Griffin-Jones | class3@halebank.halton.sch.uk |
| Class 4 | Mrs Bennett | class4@halebank.halton.sch.uk |



Free School Meals Vouchers

I was pleased to see that this week's vouchers were delivered to you on Monday and that almost all of you have accessed these now. Deliveries for the rest of the half term are scheduled for Mondays and you should receive £15 per child per week if your child is eligible for free school meals. Please continue to check your inboxes regularly and drop me an email if you have any difficulties.

Device Loans and Internet Access

We have been fortunate to acquire a limited number of laptops through the Department for Education's allocation for disadvantaged families. These will be loaned to those pupils most in need (based on confidential school information) to support remote learning while the school is closed; further information will be sent out separately if a device is being offered to your family.

The DfE is also working in partnership with mobile network operators to help schools support pupils who are relying on a mobile internet connection to access remote learning. Schools can request mobile data increases for children who:

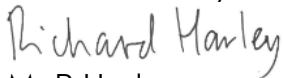
- do not have fixed broadband at home
- cannot afford additional data for their devices
- are experiencing disruption to their face-to-face education

If your family meets all three criteria above and you would like the school to submit a request to increase your data allowance on a mobile device, please email me with the following details:

- the name of the account holder
- the number of the mobile device
- the mobile network of that device

Thanks again for all you are doing to keep your child learning at home. You are all very much in our thoughts and prayers. Look after yourselves and stay safe.

Yours sincerely



Mr R Harley

Headteacher