



Tannery Drift First School

ROYSTON · HERTFORDSHIRE

31st March 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope everyone is keeping well at this time, as we adjust to keeping ourselves, our families, and our community safe.

I am very aware that, as we all begin a new and very different routine, families will be under additional pressures. This link on our website provides signposts to services that may be helpful for you: <http://tannerydrift.herts.sch.uk/family-support/> We will add further links to this page in the coming weeks.

Thank you very much to all the parents who have given valued feedback about the home learning packs that were provided on the day we closed. The staff team put a lot of effort into preparing these and we are pleased to know that many of you are finding them so helpful. The aim of these packs is to support families with home learning up until the end of the Spring term (Friday, 3rd April). They are aimed to be supportive and help you develop a family routine that works for you and your child(ren). I am aware that many parents are also working from home.

If your child isn't engaging with the full range of tasks sent home and is spending the day doing other activities, such as building Lego, drawing, playing in the garden, watching TV, or baking, this is fine. Please do not feel anxious and do what works best for you and your child. We know that many children will thrive with the school-provided activities and we encourage everyone to try some of them.

Our job is now to guide, suggest learning opportunities, and offer support to our families. We will be doing this whilst also keeping the school open from 8am to 5pm for those children whose families are playing a crucial role in the fight against COVID-19.

Teachers who are not currently in school are working hard so that we will be able to provide further resources to support your child's experience at home after the Easter holidays. These weekly learning overviews will be on the school website, under the class section pages, from the start of the Summer term (Tuesday, 21st April), and will offer a range of learning opportunities, including English and maths.

During the Easter holidays it is important for our children to have a break from home-school learning activities.

Please do remember to make use of the key stage email addresses, which are for parents and carers to use for learning related queries:

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Nursery & Reception | EYFS@tannerydrift.herts.sch.uk |
| Year 1 & Year 2 | KS1@tannerydrift.herts.sch.uk |
| Year 3 & Year 4 | KS2@tannerydrift.herts.sch.uk |

If you or your family need to contact us, please use the email address:

admin@tannerydrift.herts.sch.uk

This email address will be checked every day during term time and on an ad-hoc basis during the holidays. We will phone or email you back as soon as possible.

Family Support

Ms Kerr, our Family Support Worker, and Mrs Powell, our Pastoral Support Worker, are both here for you. They will be sharing some optional wellbeing activities for you to complete at home with your child. The first activity can be found on our website: <http://tannerydrift.herts.sch.uk/family-support/> and shows you how to make your own worry monster.

Tapestry (Nursery & Reception)

For our Early Years classes, we will continue to use Tapestry to share ideas, suggest activities to try at home and keep in touch with families.

Purple Mash (Years 1 – 4 emails)

We've really enjoyed looking at all of the amazing pictures and activities that the children have submitted on Purple Mash over the last week. It's great to see that they have been keeping in touch with each other via the 2-email application. Please be assured that while the children are able to email each other, they cannot email or receive emails from anyone outside of our school. Mrs Goodyear (Computing Leader) has now set up the application to send messages to her for approval before they are passed onto the children.

Online Safety

A separate online safety newsletter will be sent out shortly and we ask that all families read it carefully.

Twitter

Some suggested activities will also be posted to our Twitter account, [@TanneryDrift](https://twitter.com/TanneryDrift). This account is a closed account and only approved followers can see the tweets. If you request to follow [@TanneryDrift](https://twitter.com/TanneryDrift) and are not approved as a follower, please also email your Twitter handle and name to the school office. This is to ensure we are following our safeguarding processes.

Please continue to be kind to yourselves and others, as we all find ourselves doing our best to stay safe and find new ways of working during these unprecedented times.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind wishes,

Anna Greetham

Headteacher

Headteacher: Mrs Anna Greetham

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