



Building Community, Enriching Lives

Swift Class Summer Newsletter

April 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you have all had a safe and relaxing Easter.

As the Summer term starts, I wanted to update you on how learning will be structured for pupils to access from home. However, I understand that everyone's situation is unique and because of this do not expect pupils to complete all, or even a set amount, of the learning that is uploaded. It is there for pupils to access what they can, I do not want pupils to feel worried or frustrated that they have not completed enough or had issues accessing specific learning.

I had the chance to speak to some of you before the break about using Class Dojo in a more interactive way, so that we can all feel a little more like the school community we are.

Class Dojo is an online platform that all classes have used (internally) to reward pupils in the classroom. Each pupil has a profile and can receive Dojo points. Another facet of Class Dojo is the 'Class Story', this is like a noticeboard for the teacher to upload videos, photos or text. I started to use this before the break as a way of communicating and setting tasks for those pupils that were already engaging with Class Dojo at home.

Pupils have individual accounts and can see the 'Class Story' as well as a 'Portfolio' page. This is unique to them and cannot be seen by other pupils. The 'Portfolio' page is used for checking current tasks and submitting work, once submitted work needs to be approved by the teacher - we can leave feedback and comment at this time too.

Lastly, parents can have an account (links will be sent out at the start of this term), where they can see the 'Class Story' and link to their child's account to see the work they have completed in their 'Portfolio'. The parent's account has an additional communication feature, where private messages can be sent to the teacher. If parents have any questions about the learning tasks or the various platforms pupils can access I will do my best to get back to them, within the working week, as quickly as I can.

My hope is that this new platform will allow pupils and parents to feel more a part of the school community during this challenging time.

Please find below the Swift class upload schedule, so that you have an idea about when learning will be available on different platforms.

Swift 'Home Learning' release schedule

1. Purple Mash

Every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday a Maths task.

Every Thursday a reading task, comprehension questions and a linked writing task.

2. Class Dojo

Monday & Wednesday a writing task, linked to the learning objectives that have already been taught and using images as a stimulus.

Regular Maths reasoning or grammar and punctuation activities.

3. Times Table Rockstars

Weekly tournaments.

4. School Website (Swift Class Home Learning Page)

If you are interested and able to print, a range of PDF packs will be uploaded on the school website (in our class pages). Each pack will come with answers and guidance.

Alongside all of this, I would encourage pupils to read for pleasure and engage in practical learning outside and in. This is a great opportunity to practise skill and learn new ones. Having a set time where you engage in academic learning each day is really effective but remember to do other things that you enjoy, your physical and mental well-being during this time (and at all times) should come first.

Kind regards,
Mr Hanrahan