



Great and Little Shelford C E (A) Primary School,
Church Street, Great Shelford, Cambridge, CB22 5EL
From Knowledge Wisdom Flows

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We live and work in harmony with love for one another so we can achieve our potential within a community of life-long learners.
Headteacher: Mr. Chris Grey PGCE, MEd

Friday 27th March 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your families well and healthy, especially having adapted to a new way of life! Thank you for the very kind comments that acknowledge the dedication and hard work of the school staff – these have really kept the staff going and they evidence how much our staff have put into making home learning work. A summary of some lovely comments is below:

<i>Teachers are doing an incredible job.</i>	<i>Thanks to the teachers for putting it together for us under difficult circumstances.</i>	<i>The resources we are provided have been great, and I'm pleased that I don't have to do any additional preparation for the tasks.</i>	<i>I have just been looking through the home learning information, and am so impressed at how you have all managed to pull this together while continuing to run school this week. Thank you for everything you are all doing.</i>
<i>Really pleased with the content and structure.</i>	<i>My friend is using the work Year 5 have been set because the work she was given by her school for her little boy was no way near as good as Shelford's!</i>	<i>We would like to commend you all on the quality of the support provided by the school for our children during these uncertain times. The communication and content of the home learning is first-class.</i>	<i>I have just been looking at the home learning activities plan for the children, and I am so impressed by its quality. Please thank the staff for the huge amount of extra work they must have put in during such a stressful week.</i>
<i>Thank you so much for your hard work, clear communication and calm during this.</i>	<i>Just a little email to say what an amazing job you are all doing. Mrs Alderson and Miss Nairac 's lessons are just superb. Perfectly pitched and working brilliantly for my two .</i>	<i>Wow!! Thank you all so much for your hard work -this looks really clear and reassuring for the children and for me as a parent who will be trying to work at home whilst home learning is going on.</i>	<i>We just wanted to say an enormous thank you for all the work and support you've been providing over this last week. It has been such a challenging time and we as a family feel so very blessed to have [name] in a school like yours.</i>
<i>Thanks for the school and staff's perseverance during such a stressful time and for your timely email updates.</i>	<i>Just a big thank you for your efficient and thorough response to these challenges. We are very grateful to have such amazing staff at school,.</i>	<i>A big thank you to you all for everything you're doing to keep some sense of stability and normality for our children during this difficult time, from preparing the class activities to do from home, looking after children in school and the huge task of organising all of this!</i>	<i>I cannot thank you enough for your leadership and calm steer during these unprecedented times. We are so impressed with how you've managed to keep everything running smoothly without sacrificing the love and care and peaceful environment you created when things were different.</i>



The Church of England
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Yesterday afternoon, all staff met to review the current procedures in-place. We are also pleased to have had a sample of parent feedback from one of the classes. Based on this and our staff general review, please see how we will go forward with home learning:

Theme	Current Set-up	Response to Feedback
Frequency of work being released. <i>Some parents prefer daily release, some would prefer a weekly release.</i>	Materials are released each day for the current / following day.	The materials will be available the day before. Teachers will provide a brief weekly summary of themes. E.g. Spelling – -tion, -sion, -cian suffixes Maths – multiplication methods English – poetic features We would not release a whole week in advance because we use pupils' responses to adapt and plan our learning and teaching activities. (This is known as Assessment for Learning).
Amount of work <i>Much positive feedback. Some themes of a difficulty in managing siblings' various learning activities.</i>	Pupils have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 English activity; • 1 Maths activity; • 1 other activity; • Spelling; • Reading. There is a family learning menu to support families with more than one child, which staff may signpost in the 'other subject'.	W/c 30/3 – all staff will ask pupils to select from the ' Family Learning Menu ' for their 'other subject' to ensure families can coordinate timetables. Staff will look into balancing the larger English and Maths activities on each day. For example if a larger English piece is required, the maths activity will be shorter and vice-versa. For families finding it difficult to complete all learning activities, please prioritise the submitted task.
Submission <i>Generally positive feedback about this – once per day is ideal / keeps pupils motivated. Some think less-often is possible.</i>	Pupils submit one piece per day to their class email address by 3:00pm. Feedback from staff is sent by the end of the next working day.	Continue with one per day. Staff are responsible for tracking and monitoring the pupils' progress and attainment, even during home learning. Please note – submission after 3:00pm may result in later feedback.
Vlog <i>Some parents have asked if it is possible for staff to take part in this or other video elements.</i>	Currently, this is an additional element of what the school is offering to aim to keep the wider elements of school life alive.	After Easter, teachers to consider and choose if they would like to include video or audio elements.



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Here is a very brief summary of the tweaks:

- Materials will be available the day before;
- w/c 30/3 – all 'other' activities for the whole school will be for families to choose from the ['Family Learning Menu'](#);
- Staff will aim to balance the English and maths activities;
- Please prioritise the submitted task;
- Late submission may lead to late feedback;
- Teachers will consider optional video / audio elements.

We hope that these small amendments will help to continue to improve our home learning offer. As you will see from this review and all of the materials on offer on our [class pages](#) and [home learning section](#), we are endeavouring to make it work for our 209 pupils! Thank you for your continued support and your dedication to your children's learning.

With best wishes,

Chris Grey
Headteacher

