



The Weekly Roar!

Friday 15th January, 2021
311th Edition

THANK YOU

All of our parents are doing an amazing job supporting your children at home with remote learning. Thank you. This week we saw the highest number of Covid related deaths recorded in 24 hours - by keeping your children at home, you are supporting our nation's fight - thank you.

If your child is at school, we are asking you to strongly consider whether they are able to be looked after at home. We have been requested to only remain open for critical workers who have no other alternative. Please do not take a place at school just because your child is eligible. Government guidelines clearly state **'Parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can.'** If there is an adult at home, children should also be at home.

We now have a waiting list for further families wanting their children to attend school also - we just do not have the capacity to safely offer this. We currently have 3 times more children in school than throughout the first lockdown last March. Although we understand the need for these applications, for the safety of staff and children we need to reduce numbers within school rather than increase. We may look at part time places in the coming weeks.

We know remote learning is not easy. Many of us also have children at home and are juggling the demands of remote learning with our own children. After the first lockdown, we found that your children were not significantly behind - they were catching up fast! This gives us the confidence to say, don't worry. Look after your own mental health and that of your family. If you or your children are struggling, switch the computer off - have a break. If the maths doesn't get done for a day, please don't panic: they will catch up.

REMOTE LEARNING

This week has been a huge learning curve for all in regards to remote learning. Things have changed at a rapid rate with various staff trialling sessions, developing Google Classroom, testing forms, creating discussion streams and much, much more. Hopefully you will have experienced the efforts of our staff first hand. We said last week that things would develop and our first stage has developed quickly.

Stage two: We are increasing wellbeing sessions, SEN intervention and Google Meets further, please see page 2 for more info, if you have any questions, comments or ideas please let us know.

Support

We have a member of teaching staff in each year group who is dedicated to overseeing the remote learning. If you have any questions or worries, please email the year group email address and someone will get back to you.

The class streams and discussion posts are for the children only. We're asking parents not to comment in these streams. If you have any issues, worries or concerns, please email the year group email address or use the direct message function in Google Classroom. Any parent comments will be deleted.

Technology

If you are struggling with technology, please let us know. We will do our very best to accommodate. We have been able to help a number of parents with this already.

Email Response Times

Our teachers are working really hard, thank you for all the kind messages of support. We've found that some of our teachers are responding to emails long in to the night at present. With this in mind, our teachers have been advised to only respond to emails between 8.30am and 4.00pm. They will do their best to get back to you during these times; please don't expect an immediate response outside of this.

Expectations

Please find attached to the Roar today, a Google Meets expectations guidance list. Please ensure your child is familiar with these rules before accessing any of the Google Meets sessions. We are very proud of the amount of work that is being completed by our pupils currently at home. Keep up the good work BLJS!

REMOTE WELLBEING

As we have entered another lockdown during this pandemic we are aware that some of our pupils may be experiencing some difficulties around how they are feeling and perhaps increased anxiety.

If your child requires support from me, our Learning Mentor, please get in touch. This can be offered by telephone or on Google Meets.

For more information, please email me at Jackie.giles@bankslane-jun.stockport.sch.uk or call 0161 480 2330.

Mrs Giles

"A child seldom needs a good talking to as a good listening to" - Robert Brault

REMOTE SPANISH LESSONS

It has been an absolute delight to teach Spanish to so many of the children at home this week. I have been particularly impressed by their enthusiasm, communication, curiosity and positive attitude towards their home learning. A big well done! ¡Un esfuerzo fantástico!

If you missed the Spanish lessons this week, please don't worry! We will be having live lessons again next week at 1:15. (Monday - Year 5, Tuesday - Year 3, Wednesday - Year 6, Thursday - Year 4)

I'll look forward to seeing you then. ¡Hasta luego!
Mrs Stoddart

REMOTE SEN INTERVENTIONS

Here at school we have been working hard to organise some interventions for our children who are learning at home. Starting next week, we will be offering some small group and 1:1 interventions for some of our children who require extra provision to support their learning. A member of staff will be in touch via phone or email to let you know if this is happening and when it will take place.

IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!

Happy Birthday this coming week to,



Maisy, 6B Owen, 6L Amelia, 6L Harry, 5B

EXTERNAL MESSAGES

St Thomas' Recreation Ground Construction to Commence January 2021

Work has started on a Greater-Manchester wide programme to make journeys on foot or by bike much easier and more attractive.

One element of the scheme is improvements to paths in St Thomas' Recreation Ground including widening, resurfacing, realignment, signing and lighting. The street furniture will also be improved, and the crossing point at Knowsley Road will be enhanced to better connect the Recreation Ground to the Marsland Terrace/Banks Lane route. Works to implement these improvements are scheduled to take place from w/c 11th January 2021 for approximately four months.

The works will be carried out in phases to minimise disruption. The paths will need to be closed in sections to ensure they can be carried out safely and efficiently, pedestrians will be diverted locally with signage displayed on site. Access to and through the Recreation Ground, around the works, will be maintained at all times.

Coronavirus: How to keep children healthy, happy, learning and entertained at home

Dear Parents/Guardians,
Here is your free e-copy of Family First magazine, packed full of information to help keep children happy, learning & entertained at home during lockdown- We hope it helps in some way.

Please click on the link below:

https://issuu.com/sevenstarmedia/docs/ff_issue_7_digital211220



Stay safe, The Family First Team

This newsletter is emailed weekly to parents/carers. Please let us know if you would like us to email it to you.

It is also available on our website at www.bankslane-jun.stockport.sch.uk

If you have any queries or concerns, please email admin@bankslane-jun.stockport.sch.uk or phone the school office on 0161 480 2330



USEFUL WEBSITES

CEOPS

CEOP help young people who are concerned about on-line images and communications.

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/11_13/help/CEOP/

Family Lives

Family Lives is a charity with over three decades of experience helping parents to deal with the changes that are a constant part of family life.

<http://www.familylives.org.uk/>

Guidance for Parents re Instagram

http://www.connectsafely.org/wp-content/uploads/instagram_guide.pdf

Kidscape

'Preventing Bullying, protecting children'

<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/what-we-do/>

Kidsmart

<http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/>

Netmums

The network offers information to parents about parenting on a national level. Amongst the topics are child welfare, maternity, playgroups, child health and child safety.

<http://www.netmums.com/>

NSPCC NetAware

<https://www.net->

[aware.org.uk/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=Grant_shareaware2014&utm_term=nspcc_net_aware&gclid=EAIaIQobChMI6rq9lqCa1QIV77XtCh0n0w-aEAYASAAEgIawPD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds](https://www.net-aware.org.uk/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=Grant_shareaware2014&utm_term=nspcc_net_aware&gclid=EAIaIQobChMI6rq9lqCa1QIV77XtCh0n0w-aEAYASAAEgIawPD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds)

Stockport SEND Local Offer

<https://stockport.fsd.org.uk/kb5/stockport/fsd/localoffer.page>

UK Safer Internet Centre

E-safety tips, advice and resources to help children and young people stay safe on the internet.

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>