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Mrs A D Thorpe

Headteacher



Stay Connected to the Classroom with Seesaw



Dear Parent/ Guardian,

3rd February 2021

As you know from previous letters we are introducing for Nursery and Reception a new online app called Seesaw to support improved communication between parents and school. We are delighted to announce that we are now in a position to launch it. Seesaw is a simple way for teachers and students to record and share what's happening in the classroom as well as at home. Seesaw gives pupils an additional place to document their learning, be creative and learn how to use technology.

Each child gets their own e-portfolio which will develop into a collection of photos, videos, drawings writing, notes and observations. When a child gets a new Seesaw post, families can be notified via the app notification, email or SMS. Parents are only notified about their own child's work, and all data is safe and secure. The app will also provide an opportunity to communicate with the class teacher in regards to **teaching** and **learning** in safe and secure way. Your parental communication can be sent through between the hours of 8am and 5pm Monday to Friday, with the exception of school holidays and bank holidays. As you can imagine teachers are very busy teaching children in school so they probably will not respond immediately but will endeavour to do so as quickly as possible.

There are many benefits to using this app:

- Teachers will upload posts about some of the pupil's learning and achievements which can be shared with their parents.
- Class teachers can send messages and reminders to parents via the app.
- Homework tasks, Early Years information and performance videos etc. can be uploaded for pupils and parents to see.
- Parents can set up the app on their personal devices and access their child's posts. Devices supported by Seesaw include: I-Pads, tablets, mobiles, laptops, computers and even some games consoles.
- Seesaw is private; you will only see posts created that include your child, this could include group photos or videos with other children in the class.
- Up to 10 family members can be linked to your child's Seesaw, which means Grannies, Grandads, Nanas, Grandpas, Step-Fathers and Step-Mothers can all see the amazing things your child does at school and at home.

Remote Learning

Over the last month we have been posting daily 'Home Learning' activities on the school website. This will continue for the next few weeks to ease transition over to this new communication platform; however, SeeSaw will become the main way we share pupils 'Home Learning' after half term. We are going to start sharing work with you all from next week, but work will also remain on the school website next week.

When requested, children will be able to send work to their teacher, their teacher will then be able to review and comment on it. (Further information and instructions for downloading and using this app can be found at <https://web.seesaw.me/parents>).

Each child will be issued with their own personal invitation and a QR code to access their Seesaw portfolio. Please keep all codes and passwords secure.

Actions to do:

1. Please ensure that you have completed the online survey giving permission for photos, films etc to be shared of your child – Online Learning Permissions Tab on the school website. Without this permission no photos or films can be sent home.
2. Accept the invite from SeeSaw which you will receive via text/email and activate your child's account using your name, email address and create a password
3. Please download the free *SeeSaw Parent & Family* app through the App store
4. In the coming days/weeks staff will upload items onto your child's account for you to see.
5. To include all of our children who are not currently in the school building, in addition to the *SeeSaw Parent & Family* everyone will also have personalised access to *SeeSaw Class*. This will enable parents to upload pictures, films and images from home of your child to share with staff in school, on an individual pupil basis. The images you share with us via your child's account will only be shared with school.
6. Some images will be shared with multiple families eg. If school shares a picture with several children in it, it will be shared with all the families in the group. All three family groups will be able to see the group shared image.
7. A letter will be posted out with the details of your own child's personal login for *SeeSaw Class*. Once this arrives, please login and download the *SeeSaw Class* App where we look forward to you sharing pictures, films and images from home and we will share from school.

The whole of the Early Years Team are really excited about this new adventure and we look forward to working with you all on this new platform. I recognise that it is all new and so we look forward to learning on the journey together and as always I appreciate all of your patience.

Kinds Regards,

A D Thorpe

Mrs A D Thorpe
Headteacher