



# Newsletter

January 2021



## Friday Update 8<sup>th</sup> January

Dear Families,

What a strange week it has been - it feels like we have worked at the speed of light to adapt and change our school to reflect PW but online. I think we have all felt a bit low this week as we heard that instead of the original two weeks, this is a longer term situation. There are no words but we promise you that we are trying to do our very best to cater for everyone's needs and keep life positive for your children.

Thank you to our amazing staff – who this week have been embracing the virtual world and still being fabulous - whilst trying to juggle their own families and adapt to the new situation. We are all in the same boat - we understand what everyone is facing and thank you for supporting us. Doing a Friday assembly from my kitchen, with my four year old by my side – is definitely a new level of challenge! This is a huge learning curve for everyone - our PW motto - 'learning as we grow, growing as we learn' has never been truer. This is a new way of teaching for all our team. We will learn and develop every week and we thank you for your support as we get used to teaching through a screen!

**This week:**

### **Online Learning**

Thank you for supporting your child to complete the online learning. Our expectation is that every child tries their best to complete the learning – we have shifted from this being a temporary situation to this being their main education for a while. We absolutely recognise that this is a challenge – for every e-mail we get requesting all day online teaching, we get another telling us that it is all too much! We are trying our best to find a middle ground. Adaptions we have made this week include:

- *Work set the night before to help parents prepare*
- *Year 6 intervention groups to targeted pupils starting next week*
- *Differentiated phonics groups for those child who need it - in Key Stage 1 – starting next week*
- *All our spare iPads have been given to families needing them*
- *Online reading books for all*
- *Reading Eggs and Maths Seeds Subscription for Reception and Year 1 Pupils*
- *Learning staying on Seesaw for a week – in case you missed it and want to catch up*

Our team are trying to make the sessions as engaging, informative and educational as possible - whilst not too long as we know all children will have different screen limits. We recognise, it will never be as personal as in the classroom but are trying our best. I have seen lots of 'Zooms' this week and it has been so lovely to see the children so engaged. We will continue to learn from each other and embrace new ideas.

*Continued...*





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## PW School Goes Remote – 8th January 2021

### Small School

**We currently have 100 pupils attending our small school. In Lockdown 1 we had 40!**

I think it is important to remember why we had to close and that is to keep our community safe from the transmission of COVID. We have kept bubbles in school small for two reasons:- firstly, to keep pupils safe. We know the virus is at its worse, we are in lockdown and we are being asked to stay at home. If classes get too big it will increase the risk of transmission and become unsafe. We are aiming for one desk per pupil, in our older years. Also, we need to ensure we have the staff to lead quality learning at home. We cannot ask more staff to come into school as it will impact what we can offer at home.

We understand that some families have no other options and some of our more vulnerable pupils do need to be in school.

However:

If you do have an option to keep your child at home e.g. there is a parent at home who can provide childcare, you are furloughed and/or are able to home school – please can we politely ask that you keep your child at home.

Spaces are in high demand. These need to be available for those with no other options - if you no longer need the space please let us know.

*If your child comes to us under the vulnerable criteria – ignore this message.*

### Assemblies

As always, the assembly is on the school website home page [click here to view](#)

The Friday Assembly will be run twice. Siblings can join together for one of the time slots (both assemblies will be the same). We have increased our Zoom capacity so hopefully can get everyone in. Please change your screen name to your child's name and ask them not to use the chat function when the assembly is underway.





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## Contacting us:

Please note everyone in our team is very busy so you may not get a response straight away. We will aim to get back to e-mails to our senior team within 5 working days.

Issue	How to make contact
I can't understand the online tasks/need support with the learning.	Contact the bubble teacher via Seesaw/Tapestry PLEASE ONLY USE SEESAW FOR COMMENTS RELATED TO TASKS
I have lost a code/password	Please contact your child's bubble teacher – the office do not hold such information
My child is sick/needs to isolate	Please tell the office if your child cannot attend the online sessions or small school. Please continue to report COVID positive cases as it helps to inform us to where we are at: <a href="mailto:office@pinnerwood.co.uk">office@pinnerwood.co.uk</a>
General contact about issues not related to the work	Contact <a href="mailto:office@pinnerwood.co.uk">office@pinnerwood.co.uk</a>
I have a safeguarding concern about a child or need some pastoral support for my child/family	Contact: <a href="mailto:safeguarding@pinnerwood.co.uk">safeguarding@pinnerwood.co.uk</a>  Contact Mrs Bennett our Learning Mentor on <a href="mailto:bennettl@pinnerwood.co.uk">bennettl@pinnerwood.co.uk</a>

## Teachers' Planning Time

We are operating as a normal school (except online) we are holding training, briefings and PPA (Planning time) with our teams. On the afternoon of Mrs Bretayne's assembly the team will meet and plan the learning for the next week. They will not be available on this afternoon to respond to e-mails. Learning completed will be responded to by our support team.

## Pupils Survey

Please can every child complete the survey sent on parentmail. Please can it be pupils opinions – we would like to gauge how this week has gone – their success and challenges, also how they access learning as this will help future planning.

## Laptops

There is a huge demand for resources. We have exhausted our supplies and are awaiting the DFE allocation. If you have a spare useable device that you no longer need please contact us – we would love to find it a new home!

**Thank you for your continued support and kind words as we once again adapt to another new challenge – we are proud to be part of Team PW!**

**Sarah Marriott**

