



St. Andrew's CEVA Primary School  
Ecton Brook Road  
Ecton Brook  
Northampton  
NN3 5EN  
Tel: 01604 406486

Mrs. D. Thompson/ Miss M. Davidson  
Co-Head Teachers

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Dear Parents/Carers,

### Update on Remote Learning

We hope that you are all managing to stay healthy and safe at this difficult time. The class teachers have reported how lovely it has been to speak to the children this week and to discuss how they are and how they are engaging with their remote learning at home. We understand that remote learning can be very challenging for families in many different ways. Each family has its own set of challenges depending on its individual circumstances such as how many children and adults there are at home, whether adults at home are also juggling their own jobs around remote learning and how many IT devices are available to use.

During this period of school closure, we would like to reassure parents that the remote learning offered to those children at home is the same offered to the children who are learning at school in the Emergency Childcare Provision (ECP). All children are accessing remote learning either through Google Classroom and/or the Home Learning Packs. **The aim is to get as many children as possible using Google Classroom** (and Tapestry for Year R) as the teachers will have added short tutorials and presentations in the form of pre-recorded videos to help explain the concepts that support learning. If you have not been able to get your child logged on to Google Classroom, please call the school for further help with this. For children who do not have access to Google Classroom, a Home Learning Pack is available.

The government has given schools guidance to consider when designing its remote learning offer and there are many methods of delivering remote learning. Some schools have chosen to deliver live online lessons; we have chosen to use pre-recorded lessons, either by our staff or from other sources, for a number of different reasons. Firstly, many of our parents have expressed that live online lessons would not work for their families due to siblings having to share IT devices and their own work commitments. There can also be a problem with the amount of bandwidth streaming that live lessons require, and this often becomes an issue when children are trying to join live lessons at the same time that parents are trying to have virtual meetings. Live lessons can also have serious safeguarding implications that we are not willing to risk. We have heard from colleagues who have delivered live lessons in other schools that a lot of learning time is wasted having to wait for children to join sessions, through technical issues and also through trying to manage inappropriate pupil behaviour.

It is important to note that as remote learning on a national scale is fairly new, there is little definitive evidence that one method is better than another. We have chosen to offer pre-recorded videos through Google Classroom as well as work sheets and other resources as we believe that together these are more accessible and will be more effective than live lessons. Pre-recorded lessons mean that children can complete a lesson at a time convenient to the family and they can pause, rewind and revisit explanations they have struggled with. By using pre-recorded videos, we can also ensure that we safeguard our children by not putting them at risk of seeing or hearing inappropriate behaviour or language from other pupils. If you wish to find out more about remote education, we have attached some Q's & A's which we hope will be useful.

We will continue to keep you informed of any developments regarding remote learning through the Google Classroom/text/email and the school's website. If you have any questions or concerns regarding remote learning, please telephone the school office on 01604 406486 or email [enquiries@standrewsceva.uk](mailto:enquiries@standrewsceva.uk)  
Thank you for your continued co-operation in these challenging times.

Yours sincerely,

*D. L. Thompson M Davidson*

Mrs. D. Thompson/ Miss M.  
Co-Head Teachers

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