



September 2020 NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents & Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back to the new academic year. Despite the changes to our normal school procedures, the children have made a brilliant start to the year and settled back into our routines really well. This is also the perfect opportunity to say welcome to our new families that have joined us this year. Again, they have made a great start to their Collaton journey.

Our priority for this year is to deliver a curriculum that ensures children are safe in school, feel supported, develop as citizens and make excellent progress academically. Our bespoke curriculum will ensure that our pupils experience a range of experiences and thrive in a learning environment that supports their needs.

Working together as a family and school has never been so important. We are confident that our pupils will catch up from the school closures before the summer with quality teaching, targeted help and support from home. We have refined our class weekly letters to parents so that you can be clearer on the learning intentions in school and the learning expectations at home.

The children have already made an exciting start writing focus, Years 1 to 6 are completing a writing unit based on the traditional tale – Little Red Riding Hood. This unit of work provides the children to work with a familiar story whilst making progress in their writing knowledge.

I look forward to working closely with our families throughout the year and wish you all the best of luck with returning to some form of normality.

With Best Wishes,

Ben Nelson-Smith
Headteacher



Ethos Committee Members Needed

Collaton is on the search for more members to join our Ethos committee. Our Ethos committee meet once a term and work together to review and enhance our Christian Ethos. Our ethos plays a significant part in how are pupils develop at Collaton. If you would like to find out more, please get in contact with Mr Nelson-Smith.

Farewell Mrs Goble



We are very sad to announce that Mrs Goble will be leaving Collaton at the end of September.

Mrs Goble has played a huge part in Collaton's history having worked here for over 20 years. She will leave a huge hole at Collaton and she will be surely missed by pupils and staff.

Mrs Goble has had many roles at Collaton and had impact on many children over the years. She has also developed highest standard of pastoral support for our pupils and plays a pivotal role in upholding our Christian values.

Mrs Goble will be missed by all but I know you will all join us in wishing her the best of luck in the future.

The Importance of Reading at Home!



We cannot emphasize enough how vital reading is to a child's development – it is at the heart of our curriculum. Being able to read allows pupils to take in new knowledge across a breadth of subjects and to pursue our passions and interests.

There are lots of reading opportunities that you can take advantage of at home. Collaton has subscribed to Rising Stars Reading Planet Online. All pupils across KS1 and KS2 can access a plethora of books. Books are graded at different levels so you are best to find to keep to the levels that best match your child.

KS1 BOOKS offer an audio service to read the book. This service allows pupils to read independently and check their reading by listening back to the audio. The pronunciations and voices are of a standard that make reading enjoyable.

KS2 BOOKS offer opportunities to read across a vast genre of text types. There are book types and themes to engage all readers from sport to stories.

HOW OFTEN SHOULD MY CHILD READ?

Every night! The research is clear that regular reading at home makes a huge difference to their reading ability. Reading 5-10 minutes every day at home is more effective than 30 minutes once a week. Children who can fluently read should still get a balance of reading independently and being read to. Children also benefit by being asked questions and discussing about their book.





How will Classroom Dojo be used from September?

Classroom Dojo was set up during school closures to assist in providing remote learning for our pupils. Despite schools reopening for all pupils, we will continue to use Classroom Dojo in the forthcoming year.

Remote Home Learning

In the case of pupils isolating due to developing symptoms, a member of their household developing symptoms or isolating due to contact with someone who has tested positive, pupils will continue to be set home learning on Dojo. This will be completed and sent in via the 'portfolio' section of the platform. This will minimise the impact on learning being disrupted during possible isolation periods.

Reward Points

Staff will use dojo points during class time for exemplary behaviour and efforts. These points may not be given out as frequent as during lockdown and points given may vary slightly between classes.

Communication with Families

Communication between our school and parents is really important to us. Parents normally have access to teacher emails and Dojo is another form of communication – possibly easier if you have the app on your phone.

Respectful Reminder

As a staff, we will endeavour to support our families as much as we can. For our staff to get the balance right between home life and work life, please avoid sending messages late in the evening or on weekends, unless it is urgent. We will try our best to respond within 48 hours. Urgent messages that need to be seen during the school day will need to come through the school office (e.g. who will pick your child up)

Weekly Letters and Home Work

Before the summer holidays, our school council representative met and raised an issue regarding paper wastage in the school. For this reason, we will be moving towards a transition of some homework and weekly letters being sent on Dojo. Your class teacher's weekly letter will identify where it can be found.

Support

A positive impact lockdown did have on our school was how we adapted and developed digitally. We appreciate that our families have different levels of technology knowledge so please do get in contact if you need any support.

Last week, we sent out a parent survey on Classroom Dojo to see if there were any parents/adults in our community who would be able to share their expertise or time with our pupils to further enhance the experience of our curriculum. This wouldn't necessarily involve regular contributions of time but could be a one off visit (likely to be virtually for the foreseeable future).

So far, we have had kind offers of support from those willing to help with gardening, a parent who can support with languages and a member of the community who is involved with the MET weather office. You may have knowledge of something really relevant to our pupils learning!

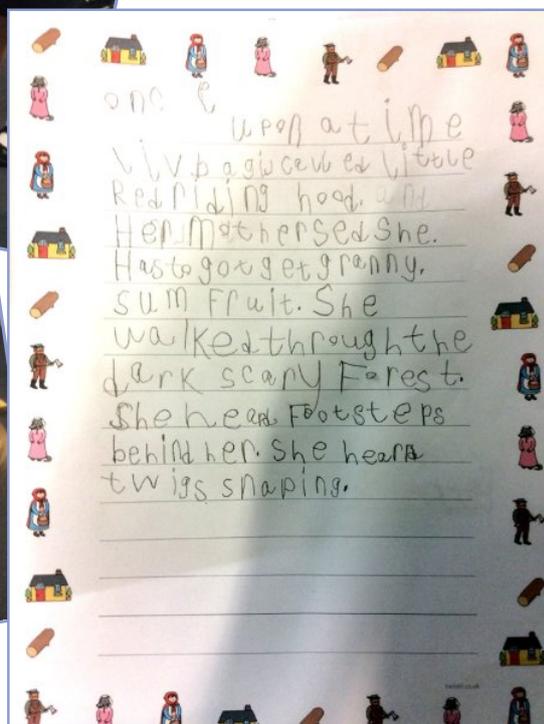
At your convenience, please could you complete the parent survey which was posted on Classroom Dojo.



Year 1

Year 1 have been learning about Little Red Riding Hood and have started writing some fantastic stories!

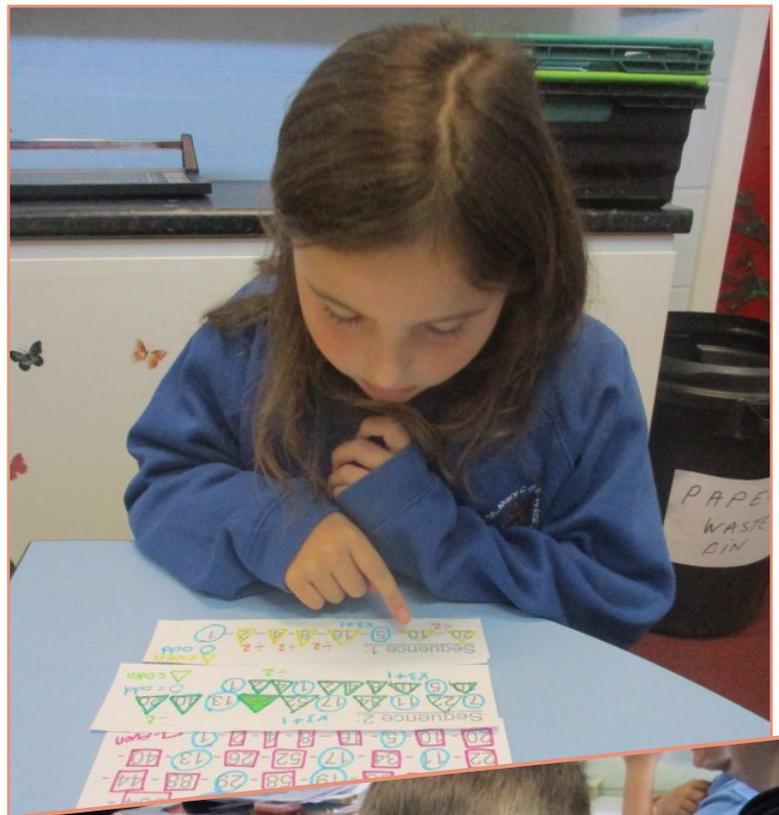
They have enjoyed looking at the story of Noah's ark during collective worship and have been doing some dance worship. The children enjoyed their first gymnastics lesson and came up with some great animal movements. We have also looked at citizenship and the children came up with their ideas of what it means to be a good citizen inside and outside the classroom!



Year 5

Year 5 have settled in really well to their new class routines.

They are enjoying their first learning experience, which is narrative writing, and have worked really hard in Maths lessons too. They have started reading the book 'Wonder' in whole class guided reading and are learning lots about compassion and empathy from the characters. In Gymnastics, they have been working on routines including travelling, rolls and balances. Our first topic in R.E. looks at the question 'What does it mean if God is loving and holy?'



Year 6

Year 6 have had a fantastic time during their forest fun sessions on a Tuesday afternoon.

It has been great to see them working together to overcome challenges, whilst having the freedom to explore our wonderful school grounds.



Flu Vaccinations Reminder

Children in Reception to Year 6 from September 2020 are eligible for a Free Nasal Childhood Flu Vaccination. This is booked at Collaton for Thursday 26th November and will be administered adhering to all up to date Infection Control, PPE and social distancing guidance at the time.

Flu vaccination is one of most effective interventions we have to reduce pressure on the health and social care system which is going to be more important than ever this year. For this reason, it is essential we deliver the vaccine to as many children as possible to prevent the spread of infection to those most at risk in society.

If you have not already actioned, please book as soon as possible by clicking the following link

<https://schoolimms.virginicare.co.uk/flu/2020/devon>

If you have any difficulties with completing the consent form please contact the Immunisation Team on our Single Point of Access (SPA).

Tel: 0300 247 0082

Email: vc.immunisations@nhs.net



Adapting our Acts of Worship



We may not be able to all meet in the hall together for our daily Worship but they are certainly continuing!

Here is an example of our live headteacher's worship, which celebrates exemplary effort and work from the previous week and provide an opportunity to discuss our school values.



Safeguarding



Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. It is extremely important that if you have any concerns over the safeguarding of our children, that you share your concerns with someone at school.

Any further safeguarding concerns please contact our Safeguarding Lead Mr Nelson-Smith or Miss Postlethwaite.



Mr Ben Nelson-Smith
Headteacher & Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Miss Nicky Postlethwaite
KS1 Lead & Deputy
Safeguarding Lead



Kate Freeman
Safeguarding Governor

ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1

MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2

CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3

CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



4

CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5

SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6

LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7

ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8

LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9

KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10

SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.





What you need to know about... TROLLING & ONLINE ABUSE



What is it?

'Trolling & Online Abuse'

Trolling is a form of cyberaggression. It involves the sending of malicious, abusive or derogatory messages by one user (a 'troll') to another user online with the intention of upsetting or harassing them or damaging their reputation. It is often anonymous and does not meet the definition of bullying yet might develop into online bullying. Trolls will often goad others until they react. They enjoy putting people down and causing discord, starting arguments or being inflammatory – stirring things up for their own entertainment. Trolling may take the form of a one-off offensive comment, hate speech or even threats made online.

Know the Risks

May cause distress

Children can be particularly vulnerable to online trolling and online abuse. Receiving offensive comments for no reason can cause young people distress and increase feelings of anxiety and worry.

Impact on wellbeing

Trolling which is targeted and persistent can have a huge impact on children's mental health and wellbeing. It can lead to low self-esteem and create feelings of worthlessness and dissatisfaction, potentially affecting how children see and feel about themselves.

Could damage reputation

Online trolling can be humiliating for the victim and can negatively impact on how they are perceived online or on social media. Trolls might goad children into reacting or saying something they might regret and then sharing those comments widely to purposely paint them in a negative light.

May affect home and school life

Children who constantly receive hateful and spiteful messages online can become isolated and withdraw from daily life. They may become depressed, angry or unable to sleep at night. Their school performance may suffer and it may impact on their behaviour at home.

Safety Tips

Have open dialogue

It is vital to have conversations with young people about the hate speech, anger and prejudice that are all around them and explore what resilience they may have. Keep the dialogue always open so that young people have trusted adults to turn to.

Discuss online behaviour

Discuss what is acceptable behaviour online and what is inappropriate, unacceptable or against the law. Warn against reacting even more aggressively towards online trolls, reminding them that their digital footprint will outlast the current problem.

Implement privacy settings

Make sure that children are only using age-appropriate apps. Make their profiles private so that only friends and family can interact with them online and turn off comments if you're concerned about what other people might say.

Teach critical thinking

Help young people to spot trolls or when people are 'stirring it' on social media. Talk to them about people who might dare them to do risky things or encourage them to post negative comments online so that they recognise them and don't become an online troll themselves.

Further Support

Report to platform

Understand the tools available on the platform where trolling is taking place and whether or not it is moderated. Check out the community guidelines to see if the behaviour contravenes them and then if so, report it, block, unfriend or unfollow the sender where possible.

Collect evidence

Always try to screenshot or take a photo of the negative posts or comments made online. Report the incident to your child's school, police or local authority who will be able to investigate further.

Seek professional advice

If your child has experienced negative effects on their mental health and wellbeing due to trolling online, ask for additional support from your school's local safeguarding officer or seek professional help from charities who will be able to offer further advice and guidance.

Seek support from friends

Friends can be supportive to one another and can be encouraged to flock to post positive messages when someone is targeted. Ask your child's friends for support - like-minded people can act together positively and they may help to build their confidence and self-esteem.

Our Expert Adrienne Katz



Adrienne Katz is an award-winning cyberbullying expert with extensive experience of working with schools and education providers to deliver training in online safety. She is the founder and leader of the annual national Cybersurvey, providing one of the richest databases of young people's views on digital life in the UK and has previously worked on government level projects funded by the Home Office and The Princess Diana Memorial Fund.

Raise Money For Our School

For Free!

The Collaton PTFA have registered on an app where you can raise vital money for our school for **absolutely free!**

It really feels like a 'no brainer' and any support in this would be greatly appreciated, especially with bigger events such as the Country show having been cancelled due to Covid.

Christmas spending – With Christmas purchases on the horizon, this would have a significant impact on our school.

How it works:

The 'Easy fundraising' programme raises money for causes through your normal spending activity.

- 1 Simply download the app or use their web page: easyfundraising.org.uk
- 2 Search and select the Collaton PTFA cause
- 3 Browse for your purchases through the app. The businesses attached in the picture all participate, including amazon and ebay!
- 4 Purchase as you normally would and the business will donate a small percentage of your purchase to the school cause. There is no additional cost to you!



Grass Verge Parking Complaints

We have received complaints regarding parents parking on the grass verge on the main A385 road. This must be avoided as this is not safe and causing damage to the grass verge and the growing flowers. Your consideration is appreciated.



Census Day Thursday 1st October

Please book a school dinner for our Census Day to help support our schools funding.



Pizza Party Menu Census Day Thursday 1st October



PIZZA SLICE

(assorted selection)

V— veggie options available

served with
crunchy diced potatoes
seasonal veg

Or Jacket potato with beans & cheese

Or ham packed lunch option

Chocolate surprise cake
fruit salad or yoghurt

Ordering School Lunches

Please ensure you pre-order your child's school lunch in advance via ParentPay. If your child is not having a school lunch on particular days, please choose the option called home packed lunch, so we know your child has one instead.

Community Care

Community food care packs are still available to those who feel they may need one. Please enquire with the school office if you feel you need additional food support during this time



Community Care



The health and well-being of our school community is really important to us



We have been extremely fortunate to be working with FareShare South West who have kindly donated some amazing non perishable food supplies



FareShare is the UK's largest charity fighting hunger and food waste. We redistribute surplus food to frontline charities and community groups that support vulnerable people.

Generously supporting our schools during this Covid-19 pandemic

If you feel that you could benefit from a little extra support with food items at this time then please request a free community care food bag via school reception. The bag will contain a variety of non perishable food items.

admin.collaton@acexcellence.co.uk

Collaton St Mary Primary School Term Dates

Monday 28th Sept – 1st Oct	Bikeability Years 5 & 6 (pre-book)
Tuesday 29th Sept	School photographs (individual only)
Thursday 1st Oct	Census Day
Friday 23rd Oct	Last day of term
Monday 2nd Nov	School returns
Thursday 26th Nov	Flu Vaccinations

Welcome!

We would like to welcome Miss Daniella Jones to our Collaton family who now works in the school office on Thursdays. Miss Jones also works at Galmpton Primary school Monday to Wednesdays.



Inspire Others



Be Determined

COLLATON ST. MARY C. OF E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Show Friendship Aim High Take Responsibility

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