



January 22nd 2021

Well done Team Monty!

The teaching staff and I continue to be impressed with the levels of engagement and work submitted. Each week I ask staff to share with me examples of super work and am delighted that my emails are full of superb examples.

Tête, épaules, genoux et pieds

This week I particularly enjoyed seeing Jack in Dr Greenwell's class singing 'Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes' in French to his snowman! That was very creative indeed!

Routines

Children in school perform well when rules and routines are embedded. It is worth trying to stick to a routine with home learning too and I am sure many of you have found ways that are working for you. Like any new concept, it is often successful at the start. It is important that we continue with the same attitude and approach over the coming weeks and build on what is working well.

That said, it also worth reiterating that we need to make children feel as happy as possible during what is an unsettling time for everyone. You will know your child and situation best and some days something might go wrong, like technology, and we mustn't worry or become stressed. From what I can see, you are all doing a great job and we understand how tricky it can be. Nice activities like reading, drawing or baking can offer some light relief and bring many benefits too.

Reading at home

You can now read new and exciting books online by accessing the Oxford Owl e-books Library.

The link to the website is here: <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/>

You should log in using your child's class username below:

Username

Nursery, Reception and Year 1 - EYFSandYear1

Year 2 and Year 3 - Year2Year3

Year 4 - FantasticFours

Year 5 - LightningLearners

Year 6 - SuperSixes

The password for all pupils is: read@montalbo

Barnard Castle Library are also offering a Click and Collect Service. More information about this service can be found [here](#).

Assemblies

A reminder that Mrs Bartoli uploads a Wellbeing Assembly each week and these can be found on your child's TEAMS page. Celebration Assembly is also uploaded on a Friday too. Hopefully all children who have won a certificate will have received these in the post.

Devices

School has received some devices from the DfE to support learning at home. If you think that your child would benefit from loaning a device during this period, please let us know. Please bear in mind that we have limited devices to loan at present.

No statutory assessments

As you may be aware, the Department for Education has stated that there will be no reported statutory or teacher assessments this year. This means that there will be no Early Years Foundation Stage Profile, no Year 1 Phonics assessments and no end of Key Stage 1 or 2 assessments.

At the end of last term, I mentioned how much progress the children had made in the Autumn term. It is very important that your children submit their remote learning assignments, so class teachers can make formative assessments and check the understanding of children at home and in class. This evidence is particularly useful for children in Year 6 as information such as this can be shared with secondary schools who will be very interested in completion rates!

Wraparound care

Please use this only when absolutely necessary to allow staff the opportunity to plan effectively for online learning and for those children in class, as well as responding to your emails. Thank you.

Children of critical workers

These children do not have to attend full time should parents work shifts or be on a part-time basis. Your children can access school on the days/times needed as long as we are made aware of this by email. If one parent is at home, please keep your child at home.

COVID 19 reminders

During this period, please do not send your child to school if they are unwell in any way. Please continue to be especially vigilant around the symptoms of Covid-19. The medical advice is clear: you must self-isolate if you have coronavirus symptoms or live in the same household as somebody who does. The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you or your household have any of the symptoms self-isolate and book a test. <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> has information about how to get a test.

Newsletters

We will not be sending paper copies of the newsletter home. Newsletters will be uploaded on to our school website and on the app during this period.

Dates for the diary

January 5th – February 12th School closed to all but children of critical workers and vulnerable children

February 15th -February 19th Half term

Mr C Minikin,
Head Teacher