



Monday 20th April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Summer Term and, although everything is very different for all of us at the moment, I hope you are enjoying your time together at home and the lovely weather from your gardens. Today we have launched our new and exciting projects on our website (www.grimoldbyprimaryschool.co.uk under the Children tab). Each week, teachers will be updating the website to provide you with lots of home learning ideas from Nursery through to Year 6. We have continued to plan it in a way that does not mean children need to be online or have access to a remote device all of the time.

New Knowledge Organisers have been released by class teachers and these are available on the class pages of home learning. More information about Knowledge Organisers and Bug Club can be found at the end of this letter – including how Bug Club can also support spelling and Phonics.

We also are very aware that home learning is not always easy: please do not worry if your child is finding some days tricky. We do not expect you do teach your child at home in the same way that we would in school – we understand the difficulties that families in both our community and nationally are facing. As ever, the most important thing is that everyone is safe and well.

Please do contact us via enquiries@grimoldby.lincs.sch.uk if you have any questions or queries and we will get back to you as soon as we are able to. If you don't already, do follow us on Twitter @grimoldbyschool and follow your child's class page too! Twitter is such a great way for us all to stay in touch and share what we are all doing at home. It's also a nice way for the children to see their classmates and for teachers to communicate with the children about their home learning – the teachers love seeing what everyone is up to!

Our website is also regularly updated with lots of useful resources covering well-being, family support, online safety and so much more. Most of this can be found under the Parents and Children tabs, and is provided to us from a range of reputable professional services.

Finally, Mrs McDowall has now started her maternity leave. I am sure you will join me in sending her lots of love and our very best wishes. Miss Mountain, who has worked very closely with Mrs McDowall for many years, will now be taking care of all the home learning and the running of our Nursery.

We do miss you all and are looking forward to when we can be together again as a school. Until then, please follow the government advice and stay at home to protect the NHS and save lives.

Sending my best wishes

Antonia Brooks

Headteacher



Knowledge Organisers

You will find a digital copy of your child's knowledge organiser for their new project on our website. Knowledge Organisers provide children with the knowledge they need to better access and thrive within their new project. A Knowledge Organiser is a document that contains key facts and information that children need to have a basic knowledge and understanding of their class project.

Most knowledge organisers will include:

- the essential facts about the topic, usually laid out in easily digestible chunks
- key vocabulary or technical terms and their meanings
- images such as maps or diagrams
- key people (if relevant)

Over time, this key knowledge becomes 'sticky' – the more you know, the more you learn – which helps children gain a deeper understanding.

Give your child time to learn everything on the Knowledge Organiser (whatever it consists of - definitions of words, locations on a map, timelines, etc). Then, maybe try some of the following with your child:

- Quiz them with quick-fire questions.
- Get them to use the knowledge to create something else (for example: use a timeline to draw out key events or use word definitions to draw a picture of what the word means).
- Get them to act out some aspects of the Knowledge Organiser.
- Get them to recreate as much as the Knowledge Organiser as they can completely from memory.

There are no rights or wrongs – simply give your child opportunities to learn everything on the Knowledge Organiser throughout the course of the Summer Term.

Bug Club

Bug Club is our whole-school reading programme that helps transform children into lifelong readers. It brilliantly combines books and an incredible online reading world, filled with child-favourite characters to hook children into a lifelong love of books and develop them as confident young readers. There are plays by the author Julia Donaldson and other new titles that contain some exciting characters that you will already know and love - like Shrek, Wallace and Gromit, Timmy Time, Dreamworks Dragons, and King Julien and Penguins from the Madagascar films.

As children read through a book, they will come across a little bug icon. When clicked, the children are taken to a short task which assesses their understanding of what they have just read. Their teacher can then monitor how well the children are understanding their books and also allocate further books should they be required.

In addition, the Spelling and Grammar Bug features practice games with a fun travel theme, Bug Club characters and writing activities. This element brings learning to life and helps children to recall their knowledge and learn new aspects.

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Phonics Bug is also available where Phonics is taught at a fast pace, combining fun 100% decodable books with BBC CBeebies videos. Children can watch the online videos to recap sounds previously learnt and then apply these skills when reading their own book matched to their level.