



## SOUTH BADDESLEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



South Baddesley, Lymington, Hampshire, SO41 5RP  
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Friday 8th January 2021

Dear Parents,

Well this is not the first Friday letter that I expected or hoped to write in 2021; it's been a roller coaster start for us all. Understandably many of us feel exhausted this week, particularly as these unpredictable times bring a whole range of new and different challenges and worries for us all. I **do** understand that this is not easy for our community.

This letter will cover:

- General feedback and guidance to families
- Technology at SBS
- Tips for using Google Classroom
- Wellbeing Provision
- Get Set Tokyo
- Winter Reading Challenge
- Free School Meals

### **General feedback and guidance to families:**

The DfE have asked all schools across the country to offer more during lockdown 3 with increased consistency between schools. However, regardless of this DfE expectation, at SBS we always intended to continue to grow and develop our offer during any further school closure. This is because we are deeply aware that children have already missed so much time in school and we want to maintain the fantastic learning they have been doing. **It is also because we miss them very much and simply want to do our best for them.**

We hope that by offering more face-to-face contact with SBS children through regular registrations and live lessons that we will mitigate some of the isolation from their peers felt during the first lockdown. Also we hope to support parents by offering more direct tuition to your children. Despite teething issues, the feedback from all the staff has been how delighted they have been to see your children! I also really appreciate the wealth of positive feedback from SBS families - it is so kind of you all and very encouraging.

**We know** getting children to these lessons and organising home learning takes a tremendous amount of time for all parents and no matter how you normally spend your week - every single one of us has needed to make significant adjustments this week - with no notice!

**Please** don't place unnecessary pressure on yourselves during this time. We are putting as much out as we possibly can to support you but we do know that sometimes things go wrong with technology or within our families and so there may be times when children miss a learning task, a lesson or a registration. Our provision is here to help you and your children, certainly not to become a hindrance. Please make sensible adjustments to our timetables to suit your home needs and keep in touch with us so that we can help if necessary.

There should be enough to keep your children busy all day, however, some of the tasks are very open so you may decide to spend a shorter time on them. There are clear priorities on our timetables and we will try to make this clear to you. Like everything, I'm sure we will all adapt quickly and form new routines to get ourselves through this time.





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### The SBS Technology Offer

We are in the process of organising some additional support for families with limited access to devices. We currently have 54 SBS pupil chrome books (all purchased for us from the Friends), however, in school we have an increasing number of children and are now using all of our pupil chrome books so cannot send these home.

However, we are working on accessing additional devices that we will be able to send home. Some of you have already received an SBS iPad or have let me know that you need more support with technology. There is a slip at the end of this letter to complete if you feel you do need some support with this. Please copy and paste your slip into an email to the admin office.

### Tips for using Google Classroom

I'm sure many of the SBS children already know much more about Google Classroom than I do, however, I find the 'to do' list on the left hand side of the screen very helpful. Also, if possible, please can you encourage your children to 'turn in' their work rather than share it with us via Gmail? To add a photo of your child's work, there is an option in Google Classroom to 'add' or 'create.' I'm sure you can appreciate that our inboxes become full very quickly otherwise. Please ask your child's class teacher if you need help with these features.

We have been informed that it is possible to access Google Classroom through PlayStation and X Box games consoles. Please follow the link below for guidance on how to do this. It may help to free up a device in your household for someone else to use!

<https://www.pocket-lint.com/apps/news/google/155204-how-to-use-google-classroom-on-xbox-and-playstation>

### Wellbeing Provision

Across the school we have scheduled Friday to be a lighter day with some of the activities providing more of a focus on wellbeing. Details of activities are on the timetables and there should be different things that you can dip into. Don't forget there are also opportunities to book times at our parent clinics on Fridays - the teachers will share the booking codes for these.

I have shared this link with parents before but I am sharing it again because it may be even more helpful now. It is a link to a **free 30 day course in self-compassion**. Each day you will be sent a new 10 minute wellbeing activity (if you miss one, you can catch up when convenient to you). These activities can make a huge difference to the rest of your day. I would really encourage you to take a look at this resource and I'd love to hear how you get on with it.

<https://www.peopleintelligence.com/>

### PE and Sport at SBS

Miss. Barna has sent out today some 'Get Set Tokyo' activities for KS2 children. These are sports based challenges that your child can do. For KS1, Miss. Barna has compiled a PE lesson that you should be able to do with your child with limited resources and in any space. I know that Ms. Harrison has sent a fantastic dance home for our lovely Gruffalo children to learn - I do hope the whole family can enjoy that one!





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Please do look at these sports activities because like you, we recognise the importance of being outside, moving as much as possible and enjoying some exercise.

### **Winter Reading Challenge**

This year, the Public Libraries' Winter Reading Challenge is all about getting cosy together to share the love of reading. It kicks-off on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and runs for six weeks, until the end of the spring half-term. You can join in through the Hampshire Library Service following the link below:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/librariesandarchives/library>

### **Free School Meals**

We know that for many families, there may be tough times ahead financially and that circumstances can change very quickly.

Please follow the link below to apply for Free School Meals. We are supporting many families in a variety of ways including weekly food hamper deliveries and food voucher schemes in the school holidays. If you are not eligible for Free School Meals, we may still be able to help so please do not hesitate to contact me.

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants>

Wishing you all a peaceful weekend. We will see you all virtually next week. Please take care and take time to look after yourselves.

Warm regards  
Anne Moir

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### **SBS Technology Offer**

**Name:**

**Reason for requiring a device:**

