

TWERTON INFANT SCHOOL & NURSERY

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Excel at Twerton
- the school that cares

Friday 16th October

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are keeping safe and well during this time when your child is isolating at home. We understand that it must be a difficult and frustrating situation for you and your family but it is very important that we follow the guidelines to keep everyone safe.

If your child is well and nobody else in your household has developed any of the COVID-19 symptoms, then they will be able to return to school on **Friday 23rd October**. This is also Wear It Pink Day, when we are inviting all children and staff to dress in pink to raise money for Breast Cancer Now (more details to follow).

Miss Pester, Mrs Carlin and Mrs Padfield have prepared and delivered Learning Packs which you will hopefully have received and Mr Kenny has recorded short phonics lessons each day for you to watch with your child. We hope your child has enjoyed watching these videos and has joined in with Mr Kenny.

In terms of learning at home, we feel the most important thing is for children to keep practising Phonics. Please do keep watching the daily phonics videos and go back and look at previous ones. You can watch the three lessons from this week by clicking the links below:



[Wednesday 14th](#)



[Thursday 15th](#)

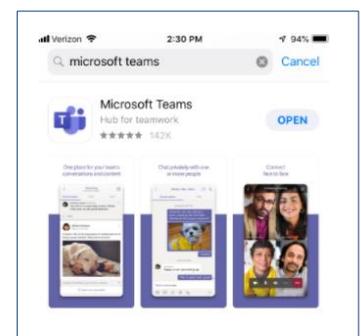


[Friday 16th](#)

There are 3 more video lessons which recap the letters and sounds that children have learned in previous weeks. You can find these here: <https://twertoninfant.school/learning-at-home/1588-2#Phonics>

Today, Mr Kenny and Mrs Sarabia will be trialling live video calls with families. The aim is to spend just a few minutes working with a child to go over and practice the letters and sounds that have been taught. Parents will need to help with the technical aspects and you will need to be present, although not necessarily on screen, during the call.

Mr Kenny and Mrs Sarabia will telephone parents in advance to agree a convenient time for this **Online Phonics Coaching** and also to check that we have your correct email address so we can send you the link to the meeting.



Like many schools, we are using Microsoft Teams to connect with children who are learning at home. If you have a PC or laptop then you will be able to connect to the Teams meeting directly through a web browser. If you have an **iPhone** or **iPad**, then you will have to **install** the **Teams App**, which is free, from the App Store.

To begin with, we are prioritising the Online Phonics Coaching for children that teachers have identified as needing a little more support with their early phonics learning. Please do not be concerned if your child is included in this list. It is very early days, every child is unique and children learn at different times and in different ways. It is our job to do the very best we can for all the children.

In the meantime, please keep watching the daily phonics videos and do take a look at the some of the books that we enjoy. You will find links to videos of 43 books being read by members of staff on our school website. These were filmed during the Lockdown. <https://twertoninfant.school/book-club/>

- **"Elmer"** read by Miss Goodwin



- **"The Blue Balloon"** read by Mrs Skuse



We do hope you all remain well during this period of isolation. However, if your child does develop symptoms of COVID-19, inform the school. Your child should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119. People who do not have symptoms should not request a test unless this has been specifically requested by Public Health England or the local authority. All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Please see the link to the PHE 'Stay at Home' Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Finally, if you are experiencing financial difficulties as a consequence of having to remain home with your child during this period of isolation then please do get in contact with the school. We will be able to direct you to Welfare Support at BANES who may be able to offer Supermarket Vouchers and relief with rent payments.

Please do get in contact if there is something that we can do to help.

Yours sincerely,

George Samios

Mr G. Samios
Headteacher