

Newchurch Community Primary School  
Glebeland  
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Warrington  
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Headteacher: Mrs J Narraway

11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear parent/carer,

Yesterday we welcomed our last group of Reception Newchurch Robins and our family is finally complete. We have also welcomed some delightful new children in other year groups since the start of term, who have all settled well and are fabulous additions to our school.

Newchurch has its heartbeat back and we could not be prouder of the children, parents and staff. All systems and procedures are being kept to and relationships are being strengthened day by day. We are so delighted!

The purpose of our letter today is to give you details regarding some changes we are making to the way we deliver our homework and also just a few reminders and updates.

### Homework and online learning

We have purposely delayed the sending out of homework until next week as we wanted the children to first of all settle in their new classes, build up some resilience in the school day and to be perfectly honest, give you as parents a little breather having had to organise getting back into a routine as the children have returned to school.

As we move into the new academic year, we are eager to continue to develop our systems and make accessing learning even easier for our pupils. With this in mind, we are moving many of our online learning resources from eschools (the platform used during lockdown) to Google Classroom. The Google systems are intuitive and will hopefully make life much easier for the children and you as parents on a weekly basis.

As you are aware from the media coverage, some schools have needed to go into lockdown: individual classes or whole schools. This is not something we want at all at Newchurch but, as you can appreciate, we need to be ready to ensure there is no disruption to the children's learning should it happen. Therefore, Google Classroom will be the platform from which we will continue to provide the children's learning should it happen.

In order to help us to make this transition from eschools to Google Classroom, the system will be used to present weekly homework tasks for the children. We believe that this is a great way of getting everyone used to the platform should we need to move to remote learning. We believe that this is a positive step forwards as it allows us to also prepare the children in using this online platform which is used by the feeder high schools.



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At the end of this letter is a guide of how to login, navigate the systems and seek help if you need it. As with any new system, there are bound to be some little hurdles to get over, but we are always here to help. We will be sending home a sticker in your child's reading record with their login details. If you could help us out by logging onto your child's account before Monday, that would be great and if you have any problems, please notify us on Monday morning so we can trouble shoot them before the end of the school day. Reception children will get theirs next week.

On Tuesday, the staff will be finalising what online learning will look like in the event that children will need to learn remotely from home again. What we do know is that it will need to be very different from the how it was last time due to the National Curriculum not being suspended. Hopefully, using the online platform for homework will help with any transition to remote learning should the need arise.

If you have any issues around access to devices, or logging on, please can you contact the school office so we can support you.

### Assessment

Through the parent questionnaires, some parents asked how we were going to cater for the needs of all the children as they return to school having had so many different experiences during the lockdown. To reassure you, we are highly trained in meeting the needs of a wide range of abilities and as such this is not an issue for us.

We are currently assessing the children to ensure we are meeting their needs: reviewing previous learning and looking at ways to accelerate learning if needed in order to get back on track. One thing that we can say is that from what we have seen, we are so grateful for the commitment many of you have given to your child's learning during the school closure as we are seeing many children who are ready to focus on the current year's learning with just a reminder of what went before.

For any children needing additional support to catch up, we will be looking at interventions to booster their learning. You will be informed of this when they are ready to commence. However, please could we ask for your patience a little longer whilst we gather the information from the assessments and observations we are making.

We hope to have the reading assessments completed by the end of next week. Thank you for your patience with this.

### Drop off and collection times

Many, many thanks to you all for being so amazing in keeping to times for the collection and drop off of your children – we appreciate how tricky it can be sometimes. You may have noticed some fluidity in the timings recently. As everyone is aware of what they need to do now, we are able to allow children to come and go within the ten minute timeslots available too their year group.

- Only one adult may come onto the school premises to collect their children. This is to keep the number of people to a minimum and also support social distancing. We have allowed parents of our new Reception children to have more than one adult for this week as they will never get their first day at school experience again. However, on Monday, could we ask that you keep to the one adult only rule.
- As you know, I love a good chat! However, could we ask that any questions or information that needs to be passed on is done so via email to [newchurch\\_primary@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:newchurch_primary@warrington.gov.uk) or by ringing 01925 763427. This is so the attention remains on the timely coordination of classes going safely in and out of school.
- The Local Authority is doing spot checks on how the staggered starts and finishing times are working, and in particular how we are managing social distancing. On occasions, there have been groups of parents



chatting at the gates or on the drive way out of school but not adhering to social distancing rules. We appreciate that some of you are very close friends but we have to stick to the procedures and expectations laid out in risk assessment and the home school agreement. Please do not be offended if we remind you of social distancing on the premises. Ideally, you should not need to be near the gates or on the premises any longer than five minutes.

- Just a reminder also that siblings, if waiting in the line to collect their brother or sister, need to always be by your side. They should not run on ahead of you when leaving the premises and they should not run up and down the slope to the side of the pathway. Again, this is all detailed in the social story and is part of our risk assessment.
- When waiting in the morning, children should remain by your side at all times.
- Thank you for using the one way system in the morning and not coming down the steps. You are free to use the steps to leave the premises.
- Over the last few days some of our families have encountered difficulties with traffic in the local area. If you find that this is the case and you may be late collecting the children, then please phone us up and let us know. We will keep the children safe on the premises until you arrive.
- If you arrange for grandparents or other family members to pick up your child, we would appreciate you passing on the above information.

We hope that you appreciate the need for these reminders as we wish to keep our children in school as much as possible so we can continue to prepare them to fly!

### Home School Agreement

Many thanks to all those who have signed and returned the home school agreement we sent home last week. Please could you ensure this is returned to us no later than Monday.

A major factor of the home school agreement is that you will '*Limit contact with other families outside of schools in line with government guidelines*'. We have been made aware that some children are having sleepovers with their friends, meeting up for meals and in some cases having parties. As you may have seen in the news, there is to be a restriction of gatherings of no more than six people. Please can we ask all families to consider the impact of the neglect to follow the guidance set out by the government. Failure to do this is potentially a safeguarding issue as children must be kept safe and it is our role to ensure this.

### Children who are ill

You may have seen in the Warrington Guardian that some schools have had cases of COVID-19 this week and have had to lock down classes and provide remote learning. Can I first of all thank all those parents who have aired on the side of caution when their children have been feeling under the weather and kept them at home and booked in for a COVID-19 test. This has demonstrated a real commitment to the partnership between school and home in keeping our school community safe and well.

Just to clarify, if you ring school to say your child is not well and displaying some symptoms of COVID-19, we will ask you to get a test and keep your child off until the results are received. If the results are negative, we will expect your child to be in school the next day – there is no need to isolate.

### Bikes and Scooters

We are delighted to hear that some of our children would like to come to school on their bikes or scooters. We have had a good think in response to the requests and feel that we should be able to accommodate this. We will be giving guidance next week as to where your child can park their scooter/bike safely for the duration of the school day.



And finally...

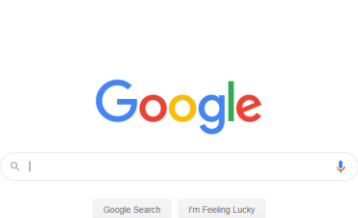
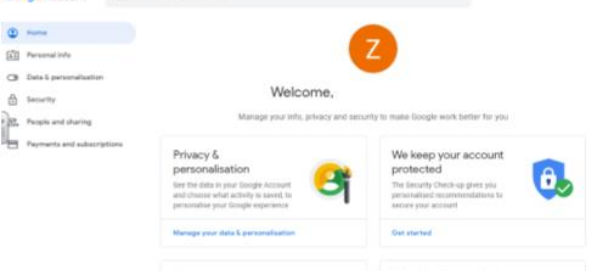

We aim to not go into lockdown at all! We are committed to ensuring your children are able to come to school every day to learn, be with their friends and thrive socially, emotionally and academically. As parents, we know that this what you are also committed to so let us keep on working together to make Newchurch a school that moves forwards safely and together.

With kindest regards,

*Mrs Jayne Narraway*

Head Teacher

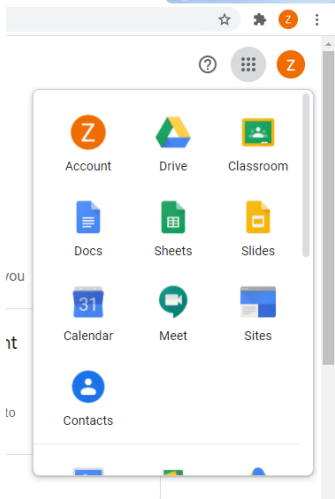
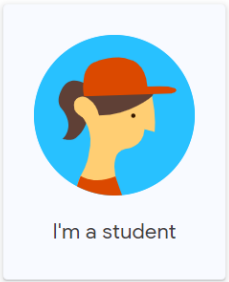
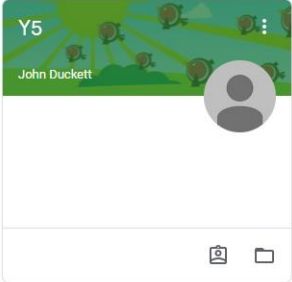
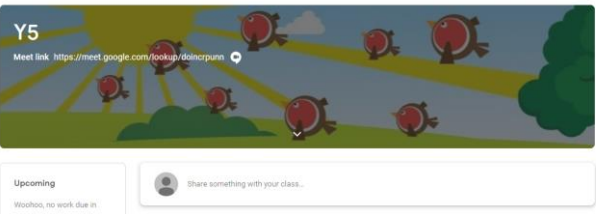
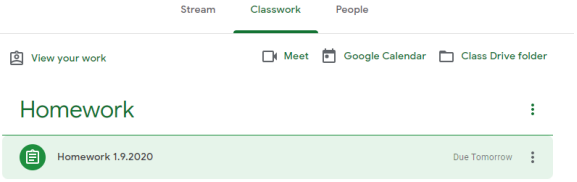
## Logging in and navigating Google for education.

	<p>Go to <a href="http://www.google.co.uk">www.google.co.uk</a> and click on 'Sign In'. If an alternative account is currently signed in, they will need to log out.</p> <p>The children's login details will be made of their forename and surname e.g. Joe Bloggs <a href="mailto:joe.bloggs@newchurchprimary.co.uk">joe.bloggs@newchurchprimary.co.uk</a></p> <p>The password will have been sent to parents separately and will also be in your child's reading record. If you are struggling to locate login details, please let us know.</p>				
	<p>Once you have accepted the terms and conditions, you will arrive at the main dashboard for your account. Some of the google features will be disabled e.g. gmail but you will be able to access your Google Classroom from here.</p>				
	<p>Use this symbol in the top right corner to navigate your Google apps. You will find Classroom which will be the place to access your homework and any online learning. The 'Drive' is where you can save all of the work you do online, any photographs of activities you complete etc. Remember that your Google account is nice and secure as long as you do not share your login details.</p> <p>You will also find packages which you can use to create work. Google has its own versions of familiar programmes:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="782 1832 1257 1892"> <tr> <td>Google</td><td>Microsoft</td></tr> <tr> <td>Docs</td><td>Word</td></tr> </table>	Google	Microsoft	Docs	Word
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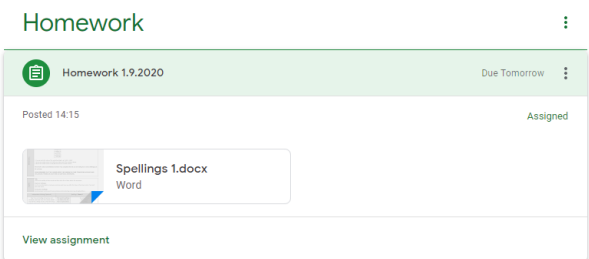
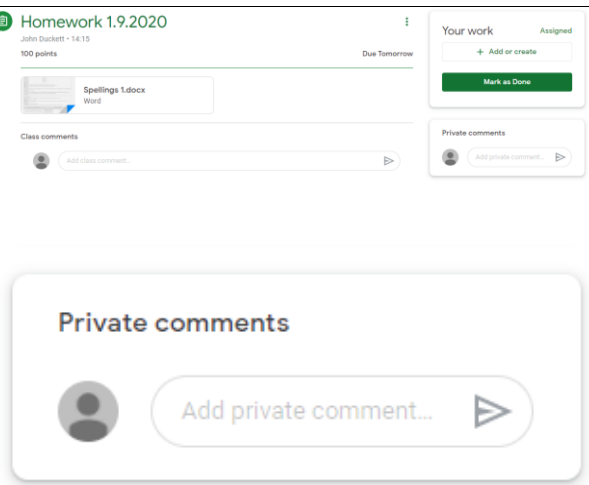
	<table border="1" data-bbox="783 141 1259 215"> <tr> <td>Sheets</td><td>Excel</td></tr> <tr> <td>Slides</td><td>Powerpoint</td></tr> </table> <p>You may have used Meet already to speak to your teacher before the summer holidays.</p> <p>Select 'Classroom' to access your class page.</p>	Sheets	Excel	Slides	Powerpoint
Sheets	Excel				
Slides	Powerpoint				
	<p>You will be asked to choose if you are a student or teacher. Just click on the student picture to get started.</p>				
	<p>You should now see the class you are part of and the name of your class teacher. Click on this.</p>				
	<p>You will come to your class 'Stream' page. Here you will find messages your staff have posted for the class and comments from your classmates. You can type a comment in here if you need any help and you don't mind the whole class seeing what you type. This is not a chat function so please limit what you type to school related threads as your teacher receives an email every time someone posts.</p>				
	<p>If you click on 'Classwork' at the top of the page, you will be taken to any tasks your teacher has set for you. You will find your homework here each week and occasionally other tasks which you have been set. If you need to learn from home, your daily</p>				



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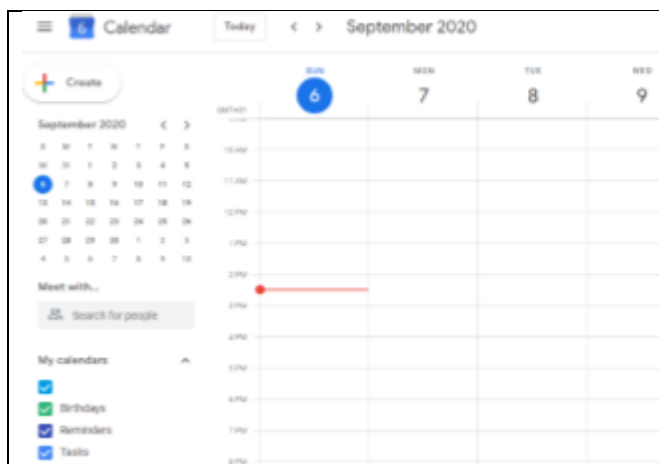


	<p>tasks will appear here too.</p> <p>Your task may have a hand in date when your teacher expects the work to be completed so that they can give you feedback. This will appear next to the work and be on your 'Google Calendar' so you can be nice and organised.</p> <p>Your teacher may save some documents to the 'Class Drive Folder' for you to access to help with your homework. They will let you know if they have.</p>
	<p>Click on any resources your teacher has posted to view or download them.</p> <p>If you record your work in your homework book you can send it in each week. Your teacher may also ask you to upload a response straight to your folder.</p>
	<p>To upload your own work, click on 'View Assignment' (see image above) and this page will appear. From here you can tell your teacher that you have completed the task by clicking on 'Mark as Done' or you can click '+ Add or Create' to upload your own work. This will let you make your work at that point. Once you are done just click on 'Turn in' and it will be sent to your teacher. If you want to edit your work you can 'unsubmit' it then send it again when you are happy.</p> <p>Your teacher will be able to add feedback labels onto your work and then return it back for you to read. Remember that we are here to help if you are stuck with anything.</p> <p>You can also send a message your teacher directly through Google if you find something tricky by using the 'Private comments' section. Please be aware that anything you put in 'Class comments' will be visible to everyone in your class.</p> <p>If your parents need support or want to speak to the teacher they will still need to contact the office as this channel is for helping with your work.</p>



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Your 'Google Calendar' is a great way to keep track of any work you need to complete and to set reminders for yourself. You can use this to put your friends' and family's birthdays on, holiday dates or when you need to remember your PE kit.



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Warrington Inclusion Hub  
**Committed to Inclusion**  
2018-19



Children's Services

