

We have at least 4 more school weeks of this partial school closure, according to statements made by the government this week. The announcement from the government provides an indication that we will continue with this until at least Monday 8th March (2 weeks after half term).

February half term

School will be fully closed for this week and there will be no school provision for children of critical workers. Equally there will not be online lessons.

If you would like to continue some 'catch up' learning, the following are options for children:

- Catch up on lessons missed (up to 20 days of recordings will remain on the Teams channel).
- Practise basic skills through Doodle Maths, Tables, Spellings or English.
- Investigate themes of interest using Espresso online.
- Help children to read using Bug Club.

Bug Club

Books online are updated weekly. These are great. We know that real-page books feel so much better. However, the online Bug Club books are good for all age groups. Teachers have deployed books to the children's accounts as we know many of their in-school real books have been read.



Home learners – Online teachers

Over the next month, it is likely that some of our teachers may change their roles in school to switch from online teacher to in-school teacher or vice versa. We are doing this for two reasons. Firstly, it will support the health and wellbeing of our teaching team. Secondly, it presents an opportunity for teachers to see some of the children in their class. Before a 'switch' happens, our teachers will spend time watching colleagues' online lessons to ensure similar routines will be followed. Teachers will speak to each other about children to ensure knowledge of children.

The schools of choice

This week, we are pleased to share the excellent news that all three of Cabot Learning Federation primary schools: Uphill Village Primary, Herons' Moor and HVA, have all been oversubscribed for Reception school places for September. We recognise this may cause some anxiety for potential reception parents until the April confirmation of places to parents. However, existing parents may take pride in knowing we are a school of choice in this town as we received over three times the number of applications for places available and continue to maintain a waiting list in most year groups.

In School: Ventilation & Clothing

Please ensure that from next week you support your child with warm clothing (examples include vests, warm socks, school jumper and even leggings under trousers). We are opening windows for lengthier periods in the day to increase the ventilation in the rooms as part of our COVID-19 mitigation measures.



Online Learners: Digital devices

Please do not struggle at home with a lack of digital devices – email the school, call school or contact Class Teachers to let us know if you need more help. The Cabot Learning Federation has done amazing work to coordinate and support schools to receive more devices from Department of Education (DfE). In addition, the PTA and donations from families have helped boost the number of Amazon Fire7 devices available for loan.

In school: Important drop-off safety notice



No parent should consider risking the safety of their own and other children by pulling up in the car park in unmarked spaces or parking on paths and expecting children to get out and walk themselves into school. We recognise the encouragement we have offered for children walking in, but this is at the safe staff-monitored school gates only. We also understand some families feel time pressured to return home and support siblings for 9am. If this is the case, please leave earlier and drop off for 8:40am.

Online Learners: Respecting privacy

Several parents have requested that pupils do not call other children over Teams over the weekends. This is difficult for the school to manage and we recognise children are missing each other without the opportunities to see each other in person. We cannot change user settings and we have to expect parents to manage this. If parents need support with particular children, please let Class Teachers know.



An Online Learning Code

Even though it comes with challenges, we receive very positive feedback about the online live lessons and learning that is being offered. Please use our Online Learning Code on the following page to support what we believe are the best approaches to the best online learning.

Ned the dog – On trial

Some of you may be aware that we currently have a school dog on trial. Ned is a young cockapoo who attends school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The aim is for Ned to support all children in a variety of ways following the success of many therapy dogs used in schools. We have worked with our Health & Safety advisors to implement a risk assessment and part of that includes attending formal training.



Reporting on the weather as geographers in Year 1

Pappadoms – Thank you

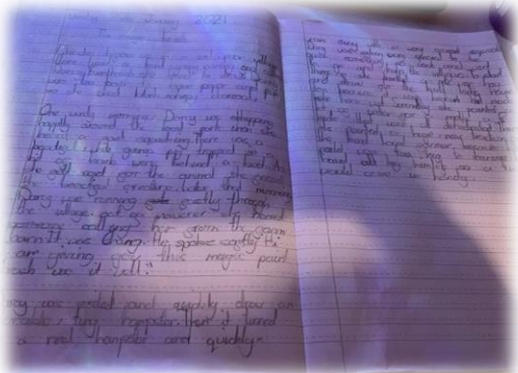
Thank you to all the parents that supported our staff by nominating our school on Facebook to receive a free takeaway from Pappadoms. The delicious free meal was a much-needed boost to staff.



As artists, exploring painting and mixing colours

Impressive learning at home and in school

Children, both at home and in school, are continuing to impress and make progress in their learning. It is great to see the evidence captured on screen or in person.



Great writers, at home, in Year 3



Learning to grow, as scientists, in Pre-school

On a final note... **If ever there is heavy snow and school closes...**

We will notify families as soon as the decisions are made. With online technology, online learning will remain in place. However, we fully appreciate the excitement and rare experience children have of snow and therefore we will aim to balance the school offer and expectations with the local conditions.

Mr Jones

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Online Learning Expectations

- **Be safe, healthy and lovely:**
 - Access online learning in the daytime.
 - Share any concerns with your parents or teachers.
 - Know when you will eat well and exercise.
 - Be a lovely person: respectful, honest, trustworthy, empathetic, responsible and kind.
- **Care personally:**
 - Listen and support everyone: children, parents and teachers.
 - Take pride in your learning, including how you record your work.
- **Be ready to learn:**
 - Equipment: uniform, desk, pencil, school books.
 - Join lessons on time.
 - Sit ready; ready to join in at the start of lessons.
 - Drinking and eating only in breaks.
- **Talk about Learning:**
 - Ask questions (raise your hand), answer questions and join in.
 - Share your learning with your family and teachers.
 - Explore opportunities to engage in the homework menu on the year group blog.
- **Be a Great Learner:**
 - Curious, Motivated, Courageous, Resilient, Make Links, Use oracy skills, Reflective.