



AN ACADEMY | PART OF INSPIRE TRUST

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Dear Parents/Carers

We hope this email finds you well and, for all our parents and carers whose children are currently learning from home, we hope that your child is settling in well to their remote learning routines.

We know that these are challenging times for all our Sitwell families – children, parents and staff alike – and would just like to say a big thank you for any support you're giving your child at home with their learning, often while juggling working from home amongst other things yourselves!

Please see below details of a few things that we hope your child will enjoy while learning from home.

### **Recommended timetable and extra links**

The link below is to a recommended timetable that may help you and your child when structuring their days of learning. Included on the timetable are lots of links to extra activities and resources that we hope you and your child find useful. It is really important to try and maintain a good daily routine for your child whilst they are learning from home, so that they make a smooth transition back into school life on their return - whenever that may be.

<https://www.sitwelljunior.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2021/01/Recommended-Timetable-Links.pdf>

### **Mrs Walker's Weekly Challenge**

Your child may have mentioned to you about Mrs Walker's Weekly Challenge, which last week was for children to make (or help make) their own lunch or dinner. I know that our Sitwell Team were all very impressed by the entries we received, and I think Mr Berkshire might be in contact with a few families to see if he can arrange for some 'meals on wheels' to be delivered to him at school – he'll pay, of course! The second Weekly Challenge has been posted on Google Classroom, the school website and Twitter this morning; hopefully, this will be something your child enjoys engaging with in the coming weeks.

Also keep a look out for further challenges which will soon be appearing on Google Classroom, including our weekly **Wellbeing Wednesday Challenge** and **Fitness Friday Challenge**! These will help add variety to your child's week and offer opportunities to learn away from screens.



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## Videos on Google Classroom

Soon, every few days, 'greetings' videos will start appearing on your child's Google Classroom feed. These might be from any adult who works with your child, and we hope that seeing and hearing from a familiar face will help bring a smile to your child's face.

Also, in the near future, some of your child's topic and English learning posted on the Classroom will include pre-recorded videos/voice-overs from their teachers, in order to explain activities or learning. Your child's teachers will incorporate this use of technology as appropriate into those activities which may be tricky to explain in writing.

The bulk of our maths learning will continue to be delivered through our subscription to White Rose Maths, which provides high-quality videos and resources for all year groups.

## Class read audiobook

Your child's teachers and support staff have begun recording themselves reading a class reading book related to your child's topic. Soon, every day, 10-15 minutes of this story will be posted to Google Classroom. We hope your child enjoys listening as much as we've enjoyed recording!

## Google Meets catch-ups

Starting from this week, your child will receive a weekly invite to a Google Meets catch-up (a group video call). This will be a great opportunity for your child to see and speak to the adults and children in their class.

Some of these Meets will include the whole class (e.g. for an assembly or a quiz), and some will be for smaller groups of children. When in smaller groups, children will be able to speak to the adults and other children in the Meet; children will also be given a subject of discussion so that they can prepare something to share, if they wish to.

These Meets will generally last between 15-20 minutes and, **for safe-guarding purposes, we ask that an adult be present in the room in order to supervise your child during the Meet.** Don't worry, the adult does not need to be on camera themselves! At the start of each Meet, all children will be muted and their cameras turned off; the host (the teacher) will then be able to control this as appropriate.

The children that are learning in school will be able to join some of these Meets under the supervision of a member of school staff.

**Your child's Meet this week will be a small group Meet, and will take place on either Wednesday, Thursday or Friday of this week. By the end of today, all children learning from home should have received an email inviting them to a Meet, specifying a date and time. Then, once your child's Meet is about to begin, all you will need to do to join is click the link included in the invitation. This invitation will be sent to your child's Gmail account. To access Gmail, go to the Classroom, click on the 9 dots in the top-right-hand corner, and click Gmail. We hope to see lots of familiar faces!**

Yours sincerely,

*The Sitwell Team*