

20<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Parent Council

As you know, we have been running a Parent Council at Tatworth for nearly a year now, and have had regular half-termly meetings on a Tuesday afternoon. I know that many of you either contact your class rep or pop-in to see me directly if you have a query or suggestion and hopefully you find the feedback from these meetings useful. With the present lock-down situation, I am sure there are questions you may have or suggestions you could put forward. The range of experiences and knowledge of home learning from your perspective, could give us all invaluable information. I am therefore proposing to hold a virtual, parent council forum, which will last over the coming days. I would really appreciate your input as between us we have the potential to improve everyone's experience. It can be anything you think useful, for example: ways school could communicate differently; an opportunity for you to pass on any advice you have gathered or to share information on what is working well in your home and might benefit others. We can then combine this information for the benefit of the whole school community. I will write a summary for this Friday's newsletter and put together some feedback and share our findings. This forum is open to all. You may want to contact your rep or you may want to contact me directly using the homelearning email: [homelearning.sch331@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:homelearning.sch331@educ.somerset.gov.uk) or a call to school during normal school hours. It would be great to hear from you.

### ClassDojo

To stay better connected during school closure we have signed up to a school communication platform called ClassDojo. Teachers are busy emailing out instructions from the homelearning address. We are kindly requesting you to sign up to ClassDojo so we can share class learning easily. If you are new to ClassDojo you will need to:

- Go to <https://www.classdojo.com/>
- Click on **sign up** to open an account.
- Select to sign up as a parent.
- Enter your name, a valid email address and provide a password.
- You are then taken to a 'Welcome' page. Please click through the introduction slides of what ClassDojo is and how it informs and updates you about what your child is up to at school.
- You will then come to an **enter parent code** slide.
- Please enter your child's unique code from the teacher letter



**Love learning, work together, achieve and shine.**

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If you require advice or further guidance you can go to the ClassDojo parent helpdesk at:

<https://classdojo.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/205417305-Create-a-Parent-Account#web>

When you have signed up you will receive updates from the class teacher on your homepage. Every class teacher has a 'Class Story' on ClassDojo which is unique to their class and is where we will be posting home-learning activities. There is also a 'School Story' where teachers can post news and other updates.

You can navigate to 'Your kids' or 'Messages' by clicking on the links on the top of the page. 'Your kids' will show you your children. There is also another opportunity on this page if you have more than one child at Tatworth to add them by clicking on 'Add a parent code'. On the main box there is a behaviour report which signifies learning behaviour rewards that have been given over the past day/week/month. The 'Messages' link allows you to have conversations with teachers.

In addition to ClassDojo we have also created home learning accounts for Spellingframe (an online spelling programme) and Pearson *Active Learn Bug Club* (where your child can access a wide range of e-books and reading comprehension activities). Details of your child's login details and passwords were also on the teacher letter.

### **FSM Vouchers**

Vouchers for the next two weeks will shortly be sent by email to those parents in receipt of benefit related free school meals. Look out for an email from edenred with the voucher link soon. Please find attached to this letter FAQ's that might be helpful too.

Government voucher spend advice:

Families are free to select the most appropriate food and drink for their child. When selecting products, we encourage families to consider health and nutrition. The [School Food Standards may act as a useful guide for families](#). The vouchers should not be redeemed for any age-restricted items, such as alcohol, cigarettes or lottery tickets. There are a number of online resources available to support families in preparing healthy and nutritious food, including on the [NHS Eat Well website](#).

Kind regards



Tracey Hart  
Headteacher

