



COVID19 UPDATES

Good afternoon to you all,

This week, we have decided that our **Stars of the week are you our parents and carers.** There has been a lot of discussion and social media coverage about the lack of notice to schools and teachers regarding the lockdown but we think this is forgetting you. On Monday evening, last minute notice was received about a National Lockdown despite the challenges this will have inevitably caused you, the amount of engagement for online learning and support for us has been exceptional. We are so grateful to you all and hope that you are able to spend some time this weekend resting and reflecting on the amazing things you have done for your child or children. We have had a few enquiries about what is best to do in challenging circumstances at home so we have the following suggestions.

Understandably, teachers are working extremely hard to ensure you have an online offer that is of the highest quality and if you and your child can engage with this then that is amazing. We are already seeing so many fabulous pieces of work and enjoying the connection this provides us with you and the children. But, it has to work for you and your family.

Please DO NOT compare what you are doing with someone else. Everyone's circumstances are different. This is not a competition. I genuinely believe children will do well once this pandemic is over and the staff at Buckton Vale will do everything they can to ensure children have all the tools they need in the future.

When learning at home:-

- A routine does help. Set an alarm and a schedule of expectations –even if that includes baking, building Lego models and time outside.
- A bit of reading every day. Children can read independently or you can read to them – a little of both would be great.
- Get the children to write something every day. If they'll keep a diary, great – journaling is good for our mental health. If not, would they draw a comic?
- Practical hands on maths. Be that via cooking, cleaning, outside or some maths games, physical or digital.
- For younger children in particular, some fine motor work. Lego, cutting, playdough, tidying up small toys.
- Physical exercise every day. Even in the dreadful weather a walk outside clears the mind of all that worry.
- Some art/music where possible through the week. Doesn't need to be guided.

You are all loving your children and supporting them through a difficult time. Minimising stress is absolutely vital in a time like this for your mental health. Don't let this be something that stresses you. Only you can control that by accepting it is in your circle of control, you are the primary educator and this is all your call.

Thank you all so much for your continued support. We are so grateful for the emails and messages on Class Dojo that help us all stay connected.

Look after yourselves and each other,
Mrs Brown and your Buckton Vale team

Dolce Snowman Competition winner



Unfortunately we didn't win despite some really good entries. The winner was a boy from Rotherham, West Yorkshire. More information can be found on the Dolce Website <https://www.dolce.co.uk/snowman-competition-winner-2020/>

New Reception Sept 2021 intake DEADLINE is fast approaching

If your child will be 4 years old before 1 September 2021

- You should put your child's name down at any Tameside Primary School.
- You must apply for a Primary School Reception place **online** through the Tameside Council website at www.tameside.gov.uk The closing date for Primary School applications is **15 January 2021**.

Digital Support

You may have heard in the media that the DfE have issued information on increasing data allowances on mobile devices to support disadvantaged children who are not attending school due to the latest lockdown restrictions. Some schools, academy trusts and local authorities can now request help to increase mobile data allowances for children and young people who:

- do not have fixed broadband at home
- cannot afford additional data for their devices
- are experiencing disruption to their face-to-face education

Children with access to a mobile phone on one of the following networks might be able to benefit: Three, Smarty, Virgin Mobile, EE, Tesco Mobile & Sky Mobile. Other networks may join at a later date.

Schools can also make requests for children who cannot attend school face-to-face because they are clinically extremely vulnerable or restrictions prevent them from going to school.

Please get in touch with us in the usual way together@bucktonvale.tameside.sch.uk should this be something that could help you.

Access to the Internet Via Play Stations

How to use the PS4 web browser

Gaining access to the PS4 web browser is pretty straightforward. Go to your main home screen and there should be an app showing 'www' which says 'Internet Browser' (like the image above). Clicking this should bring up a web browser that will allow you to search for sites like you would on a desktop browser.

How to use the Xbox One web browser

Finding the Xbox One web browser isn't as straightforward as with the PS4 (unless you already have the app pinned), but it's still pretty hassle-free. From the Xbox One home page, go to 'My Games and Apps' and then scroll down to 'Apps'. Under your apps you should see an app that has a white 'e' on a blue background (the Microsoft Edge symbol), this is the Xbox's web browser. When you first open the web browser, there should be a page explaining how to 'surf the web with the Xbox One controller'.

Like the PS4 web browser, you can use the Xbox One's Microsoft Edge browser to search for pages as you would with a normal desktop.

More details for devices can be found online and on YouTube

BBC Online learning is returning

Starting on Monday 11 January, each week day on CBBC will see a three-hour block of primary school programming from 9am, including BBC Live Lessons and BBC Bitesize Daily, as well as other educational programming such as Our School and Celebrity Supply Teacher and much loved titles such as Horrible Histories, Art Ninja and Operation Ouch.

Bitesize Daily primary and secondary will also air every day on BBC Red Button as well as episodes being available on demand on BBC iPlayer. More information can be found online by visiting...

https://www.bbc.com/mediacentre/2020/bbc-launches-biggest-education-offer-ever?at_campaign=64&at_custom4=6C147B68-4F78-11EB-A276-E3864D484DA4&at_custom1=%5Bpost+type%5D&at_custom2=twitter&at_custom3=%40bbcpress&at_medium=custom7&fbclid=IwAR2GI7U-2PZ9tCzGe0IPMDuV5ev9kYhv4o32RQRRRjYvcWr415_vYf2nXk