

NEWSLETTER: FEBRUARY 2021

PRINCIPAL: MR A DAWSON Telephone: 0114 2016800 Email: info@oasiswatermead.org

Dates for the Diary:

- Friday 12th February Last day of term
- Mon 15 Feb – Fri 19 Feb Academy closed and no remote learning!
- Tuesday 16 February Pancake day!
- Monday 22 February First day of term
- Thursday 1st April Last day of term
- Friday 2nd April Good Friday (Bank Holiday)
- Sunday 4th April Easter Sunday
- Monday 5th April Easter Monday (Bank Holiday)
- Monday 19th April First day of term

Does your child use Social Networking?

As we have been plunged into the virtual world due to the current circumstances, it is important that we are keeping children safe online. Safer Internet Day will be on the **9th February 2021**. This year, the theme is, "An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world." Please explore this fantastic resources to talk to your children about online safety: [\[Click here\]](#)



Your biggest questions answered

Q: When will school re-open?

A: Boris Johnson has told MPs that the government hopes to start reopening English schools on 8 March, depending on factors including the rate of vaccination amongst priority groups. This date is not guaranteed. [Read more here.](#)

Q: I have children completing different work. How do I help everyone?

A: The main message that we want you to know is that we are always just a message away if your family needs additional support. If you or your children have concerns with completing online learning, we are always available and ready to help. Whether it's answering questions, helping with schedules or just needing someone to talk to, we always want to help. Message teachers on class dojo for guidance and support. [https:// classdojo.com](https://classdojo.com)



8 tips to help your children focus during Remote Learning

Explore your child's learning timetable

Your child's teacher has provided learning based on their year group. For additional learning support, ask your teacher questions so that they can help build understanding.



Determine what type of activities work best for your child.

What learning platforms seems to engage your child more than others? Do they enjoy music whilst they learn? Do they need a silent space? Do they work better on the computer or do they prefer pen and paper? Answering these questions may help create stronger engagement for your child.

Encourage movement.

Kids need to move their bodies frequently throughout the day. Allow time for exercise before your child is expected to focus on a remote learning task. Some children can focus better on tasks when standing.



Reduce distractions.

Where possible, reduce distractions when your child is completing schoolwork. This includes noise as well as visual noise or clutter. A designated workspace that is comfortable for your child will be helpful.

Adjust the schedule as needed.

If your child is frustrated — or alternately, if your child is very engaged in learning — make a change in your schedule to allow for a break (and revisit at a later day or time) or to spend time delving deeper into the topic. Remember to let your teacher know if you are going to try an activity later in the day. It's helpful to let us know what's working best for you.

Use a checklist for focus.

For some children who really struggle with focusing, a basic visual checklist of tasks needed for an activity will be helpful. For example, if the child is asked to watch a lesson, create a checklist to prompt, the key actions: *watch, pause, read, write*. The child would check off each task with you as it is completed and receive some positive praise when finished.



Give your child (and yourself) a break.

Your teacher does not want your child to worried about learning. In fact, teachers spend time trying to make lessons interesting, and to tailor instruction to provide the right level of challenge for their students. If something is too challenging, it's also okay to slow down the pace, which means giving your child time to think and process information.

Provide immediate positive feedback.

Each time your child completes remote learning instruction, provide immediate and positive feedback! Something as simple as putting a check mark, star, or sticker on the work assignment can go a long way in helping to motivate your child. And don't forget to celebrate yourself, as you are playing such an important role to help your child learn.

