



Hello everyone

On behalf of all the Governors and staff, thank you to all our children and parents/carers who have embraced our transition into a new way of delivering '**Remote Learning**'. We totally appreciate how challenging it is for everyone to try to organise families, often with several learners in the home, to access online learning, and especially with limited or no devices or connectivity.

School managed to secure **137 DfE loaned laptops** which have now all been allocated. We are aware that we have not managed to meet all the requests we have received but we are doing our very best to try and source additional laptops for those children who still require them. We will contact you if we are successful with getting some more.

I also want to emphasise that **paper packs are always available weekly** to support the children's learning. These can be collected on Monday each week from the Year Group boxes on tables outside the main Reception. Individual paper packs to support SEND children are held in Reception and can also be collected from Monday each week. Photos of work can be emailed to teachers for feedback—

[Y3remotelearning@thornton.bham.sch.uk](mailto:Y3remotelearning@thornton.bham.sch.uk) (change the number for your child's year group).



We have now reached the end of our third week of using the **Google Classroom** platform to help engage our children with online learning. It has been a very eventful 3 weeks with staff having to learn how to set-up and run a totally new way of learning online, as well as try and

communicate this remotely to children and parents/carers. We are truly grateful for your patience and understanding as we do everything we can to troubleshoot and support the technological side of this! I have been really impressed with our staff who now find themselves acting as IT support to guide children and parents/carers through the process of logging on and



Acting Headteacher - Mrs Cathy Grace  
Assistant Headteachers - Miss Loach,  
Mrs Biddle-Rawbone, Mrs Mazar

Chair of Governors—Mr Amjid Ali  
Vice-Chair of Governors—Johur Uddin



Thornton Road  
Ward End,  
Birmingham B8 2LQ  
01213270824  
[enquiry@thornton.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@thornton.bham.sch.uk)

submitting work on this new platform whilst still delivering their **twice daily Google Classroom Meets**.

We have taken the decision to have a **weekly rota for each Year Group** for the times of the twice daily Google Classroom Meets. This is to help families with more than one child access their online learning at different schools more fairly, as well as families with more than one child at our school. Feedback about this so far suggests this is working well for families trying to organise their children's learning.



Next week, we will be reminding the children of our expectations for online learning and will be asking the children to turn their cameras on for registration so they can see their friends (this is optional). We are all excited about doing this!



**Coming Soon!**

**'Lockdown Learner of the Week'.**

**A chance to celebrate all the hard work the children have been putting in throughout the last few weeks.**

### Updating your contact details

It's really important you keep us up to date with your contact information. If your mobile number or your email address has changed, please let us know by emailing:  
**[updatecd@thornton.bham.sch.uk](mailto:updatecd@thornton.bham.sch.uk)**

## **Safeguarding Update**

We have thoroughly enjoyed talking to you all on Google Classroom each day and being able to share the learning with each other.

During the last two weeks of term we will be calling all the children at home for a chat and a catch up. If for any reason your contact details have been changed please call school at your earliest convenience to let us know. Teachers will call anytime between 9am- 4pm so please try and pick up your phones when you see the school number calling.

We will also call you at least once during the first two weeks back after half term, as we now know we will be remote learning until at least the 8th March.

We have staff on site everyday if you should have any questions, please call us or even e-mail your class teacher directly or message through Google Classrooms.

### App to support children's well-being

Mindful Powers™ is an award-winning, kid-first, holistic approach to helping young minds learn and practice mindfulness so they can respond more effectively to stressful situations through the power of play. Mindful Powers™ is designed to be a part of your child's daily routine. It is simple, easy, and fun to use, so kids can pick it up and use it at any point in their day. The two key features are:

- Mindful Play | voice-guided mindfulness sessions
- Focus Time | a task timer

