

### **Update on DfE funded laptops, internet routers and Free School Meal vouchers**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are now contacting all of the families who will receive one of the DfE funded laptops.

Since Monday night, we have received lots of requests for laptops from our families. We have followed up these requests by finding out **how many devices the family has** in their home (including mobile phones and tablets), **how many Werneth Primary School children** live in the family home and **how many children in full-time education** live in the family home.

This has been done to help us to assess and prioritise where the need is the greatest and we have now allocated laptops provided by the Department for Education (DfE) to the families in most need.

**If you do not receive a phone call this week to say that you have been allocated a laptop, this means that you will not be allocated a laptop at this time. Unfortunately, we have not had enough supply to meet our need and any families that already have a device (including tablets and ipads) will not receive a laptop at this time.**

At this time, we are unable to loan any of the devices usually used in school, as we have approximately 85 children in school every day who are accessing online learning and need devices as part of their study.

This is because the children who are in school are doing the same work as the children learning from home while supervised by Werneth Primary School staff (mostly support staff, as teachers are leading the remote learning sessions and providing feedback to those children learning from home).

We have been informed by the DfE that we are likely to be able to order additional laptops from 15<sup>th</sup> January. We do not yet know how many laptops we will receive but once they arrive, we will begin to contact families who have requested a device.

**If you have any questions about Google Classroom or the home learning set, or you would like to send in photographs of any completed home learning, please contact your child's class teacher by email. Emails will be responded to between 9am and 3pm on Mondays-Fridays.**

[nursery@wernethprimary.org.uk](mailto:nursery@wernethprimary.org.uk)

[reception@wernethprimary.org.uk](mailto:reception@wernethprimary.org.uk)

[y1@wernethprimary.org.uk](mailto:y1@wernethprimary.org.uk)

[y2@wernethprimary.org.uk](mailto:y2@wernethprimary.org.uk)

[y3@wernethprimary.org.uk](mailto:y3@wernethprimary.org.uk)

[y4@wernethprimary.org.uk](mailto:y4@wernethprimary.org.uk)

[y5@wernethprimary.org.uk](mailto:y5@wernethprimary.org.uk)

[y6@wernethprimary.org.uk](mailto:y6@wernethprimary.org.uk)

**Please do not use the [support@wernethprimary.org.uk](mailto:support@wernethprimary.org.uk) email for this as this will not be monitored by the class teachers and you will not get the support that you need.**

**Google Classroom works well on a variety of devices. Please find below some tips.**

#### **Tablet (e.g. iPad, Samsung)**

Google Classroom will work on tablets. Pupils can log in to their account and watch the teacher videos. To enable your child to edit and return their work, you will need to download the 'Google Docs' app from the App Store or Android Store. This is free to download.

#### **Mobile Phone**

Your child should be able to log into their Google Classroom account on a smartphone. You will need to download the 'Google Docs' app to enable your child to complete their work.

If you are finding it difficult to edit and return the Google Docs, your child can complete their work on paper and a photo of the work can be emailed to the class teacher. This work will then be marked and your child will receive feedback.

### Access Google Classroom with Xbox

1. Go to the Home Menu.
2. Select My games and Apps.
3. Scroll down to Apps.
4. Go to Microsoft Edge application.
5. Type in a search for 'Google Classroom' or enter classroom.google.com
6. Log in with the username and password provided by school.
7. Pupils can either use an Xbox controller to move the cursor or a separate USB mouse plugged into one of the other ports.
8. A keyboard can also be plugged into the Xbox if available.

### Access Google Classroom with the PS4/PS5 system

1. Use your controller to scroll to the far right of the bar with games to Library.
2. Select Library application.
3. Within the library use the search bar to type in Internet.
4. Select the Internet Browser app.
5. Start Internet Browser and press the triangle button on the controller to search.
6. Once on the internet, type in the search box 'Google Classroom' and select the appropriate link.
7. Select 'Go to Classroom', then log in using the username and password provided by school.
9. A wired mouse and keyboard can be plugged into the PS if available.

### **Free school meal vouchers**

Everyone who is entitled to receive a free school meal voucher should now have been emailed their vouchers for this week. These vouchers provide £2 per day, per pupil and you will have received £6 for this week because a free school meal was made available for you to collect on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January.

You will now receive these vouchers every week and we hope that this supports our families through the difficult times that we are living in. The Office Team have worked quickly to put this in place for all of our eligible families, but please phone school on 0161 770 5333 if you have not received your vouchers yet.

If you think that you might be entitled to free school meals, you can apply online at [https://www.oldham.gov.uk/forms/form/525/en/free\\_school\\_meals\\_fsm\\_application\\_form](https://www.oldham.gov.uk/forms/form/525/en/free_school_meals_fsm_application_form)

### **And finally...**

Thank you again for your understanding and support since Monday night. To find out that schools were to be closed at 12 hours' notice has led to a very challenging week for everyone at Werneth Primary School.

Since 8:30pm on Monday, we have successfully **provided in-school support for over 80 children** who need to access our critical worker and vulnerable children provision, **rearranged classrooms and staffing to supervise the children** in school, **updated risk assessments, provided free school meal vouchers to eligible families**, produced and **provided home learning kits for all children in our school**, allocated and started to **distribute laptops and wifi routers to families** and begun **remote learning for our brilliant children**.

This has required an enormous effort and extraordinary levels of agility, effort and commitment from all of the Werneth Primary School staff team. I feel privileged to work with such professional and dedicated people, who have worked enthusiastically to provide a high-quality remote education to our children and looked after the welfare needs of our children. They are a wonderful group and deserve your effort to support learning at home.



Mr Bell  
Principal, Werneth Primary School