



Five Acres High School

Ambition – Confidence – Creativity – Respect – Determination



6 May 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

To help us to further support your child's learning at Five Acres High School, we have invested in an innovative literacy improvement tool called Bedrock Vocabulary. It is a website that helps children to learn very important tier 2 academic vocabulary, whilst encouraging them to read regularly. Wide vocabularies are an important factor in making excellent progress at school and it is particularly important that we help your children maintain this skill at this time.

As your child progresses through the curriculum, they will study hundreds of words, whilst reading fiction and a broad range of non-fiction texts regularly. Bedrock Learning helps students to learn and embed important new vocabulary across the curriculum. Individual lessons are assigned to students after a short baseline reading assessment. Once set up, students can complete sessions which are tailored to their own, personal vocabulary needs. They will also fill in an online vocabulary notebook to practise using this vocabulary, which you are able to view. We would also encourage you to use this vocabulary in conversation at home with your child to help support them.

Lessons are arranged in 'blocks' which are determined by your child's initial reading assessment which needs to be completed independently to create an accurate assessment. Once the 'alpha reading test' is complete, students can start learning from lessons which are arranged into 'blocks'. These lessons should take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete and a minimum of two sessions need to be completed over the week. These should take place 48 hours apart, and the practise is known as drip feeding. This has been scientifically proven to be the best way to learn new vocabulary, therefore it is important to remember to leave spaces between learning sessions.

These lessons will help to take the place of timetabled DEAR reading sessions at the end of the day whilst we are unable to attend school on site. Once we return they will become part of weekly English homework. On our return to school, we will be able to celebrate success in the same way the school does for Hegarty Maths for example.

As an online learning tool, Bedrock Learning can be accessed from any device connected to the internet. Your child has been emailed their own personal log in details and the following instructions should help to access Bedrock Learning.

Step 1: Visit <https://app.bedrocklearning.org>.

Step 2: Click on the 'student' tab and log in using the details in the email.

Step 3: Your child needs to complete a quick reading assessment known as an Alpha assessment. This should only take a few minutes and will then place them in the correct 'block'.

Step 4: Students are now ready to start learning and need to complete 2 lessons per week, 48 hours apart.

The English department really appreciates the support you provide for our students whilst they are learning at home. This is something else which is new. Like all new things, sometimes there are initial difficulties. If you have any questions, please either email them to myself or contact your child's English teacher and we will do our best to help you.

Many thanks,

C Rontree Jones

Mrs Rontree Jones



School of
CHARACTER

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