

Google Classroom Update

Further to my previous email, please see below details for all year groups regarding Google Classroom:

Year 6

Daily lessons are taking place – Maths at 9.15am and Literacy at 10.45am

Year 5

Daily lessons are taking place – Maths at 10.00am and Literacy at 11.30am

Year 4

A second trial lesson will take place on Friday at 10.00am. It will be a maths lesson. From next Monday (18th January) there will be daily lessons taking place – Literacy at 10.00am and Maths at 11.30am.

Year 3

A second trial lesson took place today. From next Monday (18th January) there will be daily lessons taking place – Literacy at 9.15am and Maths at 10.45am.

Year 2

There will a trial lesson for Year 2 on Thursday at 10.00am – it will be a Literacy lesson.

Year 1

There will be a trial lesson for Year 1 on Thursday at 11.00am – it will be a maths lesson.

Year R

Following the Year 1 and 2 trials, we will look into how we can use Google Classroom in Reception.

School Website

Firstly, we are aware that the website is having moments where it is unresponsive/slow. Trust me, I am as fed up as you! The website developer is aware and is liaising with the server company to try and identify the cause – it is not just our website but all schools who use this particular server. In the meantime, as well as the website, teachers will also be uploading the work to Google Classroom on a daily basis so it can be accessed in the stream on there, for Years 1-6.

When a live lesson is taking place, there will not be videos on the website. If you are unable to access the Google Classroom live lesson, the work can still be downloaded, either from the website or the Google Classroom stream for Years 1-6.

Google Classroom Instructions

Please note the details below as it covers the main queries and issues which we have received:

- They need to access the Year Group classroom rather than their own classroom. (eg Year 2 rather than 2 Ash)
- On the Year group classroom page, under the classroom title banner (Year x 2020-21) a meet link will appear – please note this link will only appear just before the allotted lesson time.

- They should ensure they have logged out of any other google accounts on the device prior to the meeting. If it asks them for a class code, they are not logged in to the correct account. To log out of an existing Google account, click on the circle in the top right hand corner of the google page (it may have a letter in or a picture) and add an account. Use the details below when adding the account.
- They use their USO logon (the same one as their j2blast login) to access the google classroom in the format USOUsername@apps.pfps.havering.sch.uk replacing USOUsername with their USO Username eg – smith082.311@apps.pfps.havering.sch.uk the password is their USO password.
- If using an ipad/iphone or android device you may find it better to download the Google Classroom and Google Meets app – these are both free to download. There is a video on youtube explaining how to access using the app and the camera, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yHC0CsaLHiQ&feature=emb_title
- Children should mute themselves when they join the session, they can keep their camera on.
- Children should use both the chat function and the announcements function only as part of the school work taking place. They are not to be used for social chit-chat! There will be 2 teachers on most lessons to monitor the usage of the chat facility.
- Once the lesson is finished, children need to end the call by clicking on the phone icon.
- If children do not follow the guidelines set, misuse the chat/announcement facility or misbehave in the lesson parents will be subsequently informed and they risk being removed from the Google Classroom.
- If you need any assistance please do call the school and we will try our best to help out.

Year 1 and 2 – although your trial lessons are not until Thursday, I would encourage you to log on before then to check you can access the room etc.

Laptops

You may be aware that the Government are providing schools with laptops for disadvantaged families to loan from the school, who may not have any access to devices for children to work on.

We have been given an allocation of 30 devices – when these arrive we will then have to get them loaded with all the software required and then we will be able to share these out to families.

If you do not have any way for your child to access Google Classroom live lessons then you can submit a request for a laptop. Please note however that given we have 600 children on our school roll, we are severely limited in who we can provide devices to.

You will need to have the ability for the laptop to access the internet, either through 4G tethering to a mobile phone or a fixed/wireless broadband connection.

We will base decisions on who will receive the laptops by considering individual circumstances, so if you would like to be considered please call the school by Tuesday 19th January with the following information:

- Child's Name
- Number of children (under 18) in the house
- Number of devices able to get on to the internet in the house (please include laptops, computers, tablets/ipads, phones)
- How you would connect the laptop to the internet.
- Reason for needing loan of a laptop.

We will then allocate accordingly. Please remember we can only hand out the small number we have received unless the government allocate further devices to us.

Thank you again for all your support – if you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Mr Abrahall