



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

*Aim High*

*Never Give Up*

*Follow Your Dream*

*Lead By Example*

02/05/2017

Dear Parents/Carers

This year, we have been focusing on improving parent/carer engagement in our children's learning. We have achieved this through a number of strategies including parent/carer open sessions on a half termly basis, mid-year written attainment and achievement report, as well as our established written end of year report, teachers available at the beginning and end of the school day, half termly curriculum overview, photographs and learning links on our website etc.

Moving forward we would like to be able to share with our parent/carers the focus that the children will be encountering in their next learning journey to enable families an opportunity to do a little 'prior learning' at home to put the children at an advantage when starting a new focus or unit. This approach is called 'Preview'.

Studies show that homework in primary age settings has very little impact upon the progress the children achieve, however when children engage in research and learning based on their next unit of work the impact is over 90 times more successful!

To achieve this, Norwood School has introduced Seesaw, an online pupil digital portfolio tool. This will be implemented for children in Years 1 to 6 and build on the success of strategies used in EYFS with the Tapestry app that some of you may know about.

Whilst we will use Seesaw mainly for communicating how you can help your children in advance of their learning in school to put them at an advantage, it also has a 'portfolio' function. This enables children to log in and upload photos, files and videos of their learning that you will be able to view from a device with an internet connection. When your child adds a new note, photograph, video or work you will receive a notification prompting you to view and respond to your child's learning item. To show that you have read and engaged with the notes and work shared, please click like and feel free to add comments to your children's posts.

You only have access to your own child's work and all of the content is stored securely, however there may be posts of photographs that include a number of children across the class.

For an introduction, parents/carers can view this YouTube video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tlw-tUKvnNc>

***Seesaw logins have been sent home in hard copy today.***

The login contains all required information to create a parent account.  
Seesaw can be accessed via iOS, Android and all computers with Chrome and Firefox browsers.

Yours faithfully

Mrs D Reynolds  
Head Teacher

