



Barrow Hills

SCHOOL

Friday 1st May

Dear Junior Prep Parents,

Further to my letter earlier in the week, we would like to provide you with some introductory instructions for using Google Classroom. We have put together three guides for how to use Google Classroom, one for using it in a web browser on a laptop/desktop computer, one for using it with the Android app, and one for using it with the iOS app. These have been shared with you in the same portal notice as this letter.

Please note that in order to use Google Classroom, you will need to log-in with your **child's** Barrow Hills email address and password. Google Meet will be accessed directly through Google Classroom, so there will be no need to log-in to Google Meet separately every time.

Work will be scheduled to appear in your child's Google Classroom the evening before their lesson, so you have time to review the tasks for the following day. Please use your child's timetable to guide which lessons we will be setting work for each day. There has been a minor change to the Year 3 timetable in response to the subjects scheduled on a Wednesday. I have included an updated version in this portal notice.

The assignments will show as being due at 4.30pm on the day that they have been scheduled, which helps to make sure that only the correct day's assignments show on your child's home page, but work can be handed in after this time. Please upload and hand-in work as soon as you are able to - hopefully your children will gain some independence with this as they become more familiar with the platform.

We hope that by making some work available that can be completed on-screen we will reduce the need for you to print. If you are keen to avoid printing, please do feel free to adjust tasks, so that worksheets can be viewed on-screen and answers which would normally be put on a printed worksheet can be written out on paper and uploaded as a photo.



Teachers in Junior Prep are currently spending time learning how to use Google Classroom, so please bear with them this week if work you have uploaded to Tapestry does not receive timely feedback. We will not be using Tapestry to upload work from the close of play from today and this platform will be closed for Year 3 and 4 soon. Having had a chance to review the feedback timelines and process to date, please note that for English and Maths (where children complete and upload work daily), key pieces of work will receive more detailed feedback within the week. While all work handed in will be reviewed by the teacher, not all pieces of work will receive a teacher comment.

If you have any difficulty accessing Google Classroom or getting into your child's assignments, please get in touch with IT Support (itsupport@barrowhills.org), rather than the form tutor or subject taker.

A number of parents have got in touch with Form Tutors to make requests for a personalised approach to how learning is accessed, delivered or resourced. While we do our best to adapt to individual circumstances where possible, the number of requests for a personalised approach has reached an untenable level. We sincerely hope that Google Classroom will provide a smoother and more complete 'best fit' experience for all. There is no pressure to complete all of the work that has been set in each or in every subject - as always, we encourage you to adapt the timetable to suit your home environment. Additionally, for those who are keen to do more, there are many wonderful resources being made readily available on the internet and you should be able to find something for every interest.

Kind regards,



Sarah Poyntz
Director of Teaching and Learning
sep@barrowhills.org