LOW ASH

PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Learning from home – useful websites and Purple Mash – Year 5

27th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope this letter finds everyone safe and in good health. This past week has been a very unusual one in these extraordinary times and we hope that the children have managed to settle into a routine, making sure that the work packs we have sent home are accompanied with lots of play and some time to relax as a family.
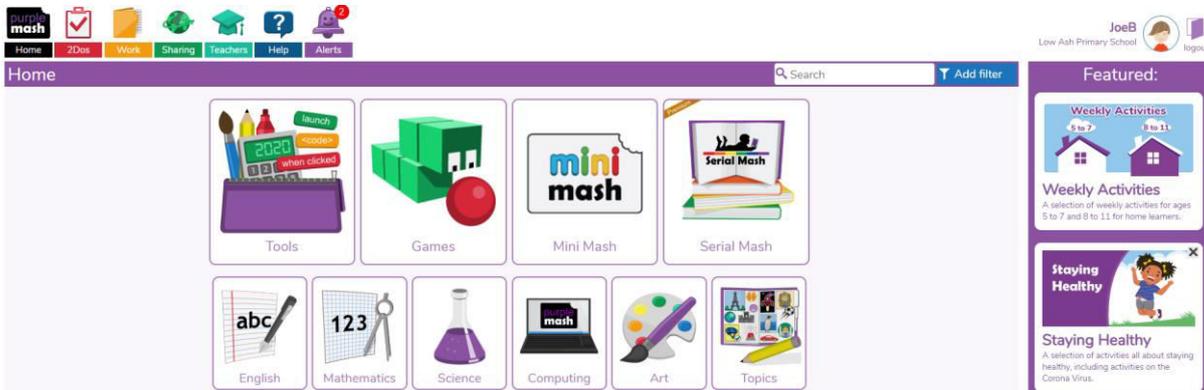
This letter will direct you to some more useful websites and explain in more detail the work set on Purple Mash in the weeks to come.

In addition to the 5 weeks' worth of work sent home, we will start adding more '2Do' tasks on Purple Mash. Your children already have their passwords and it has been great to see how many children are already engaging with the platform. These tasks are not time-sensitive and can be completed at your leisure.
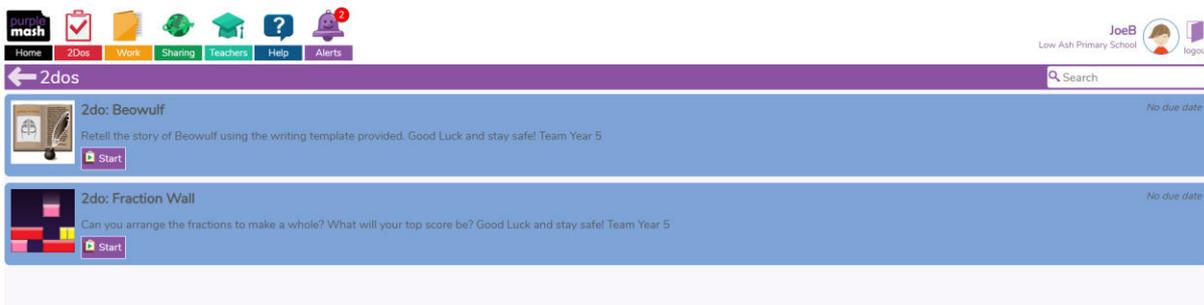
Regarding the use of PurpleMash, please read the following pieces of information as we hope this will provide some clarity for you and your children:

<u>2Do Tasks</u>
These are the tasks that are set for your child to complete online. They can be accessed via the red '2Do' button in the top left hand corner of the Purple Mash homescreen. Once clicked, a drop down menu will appear with a list of activities for your child to complete.

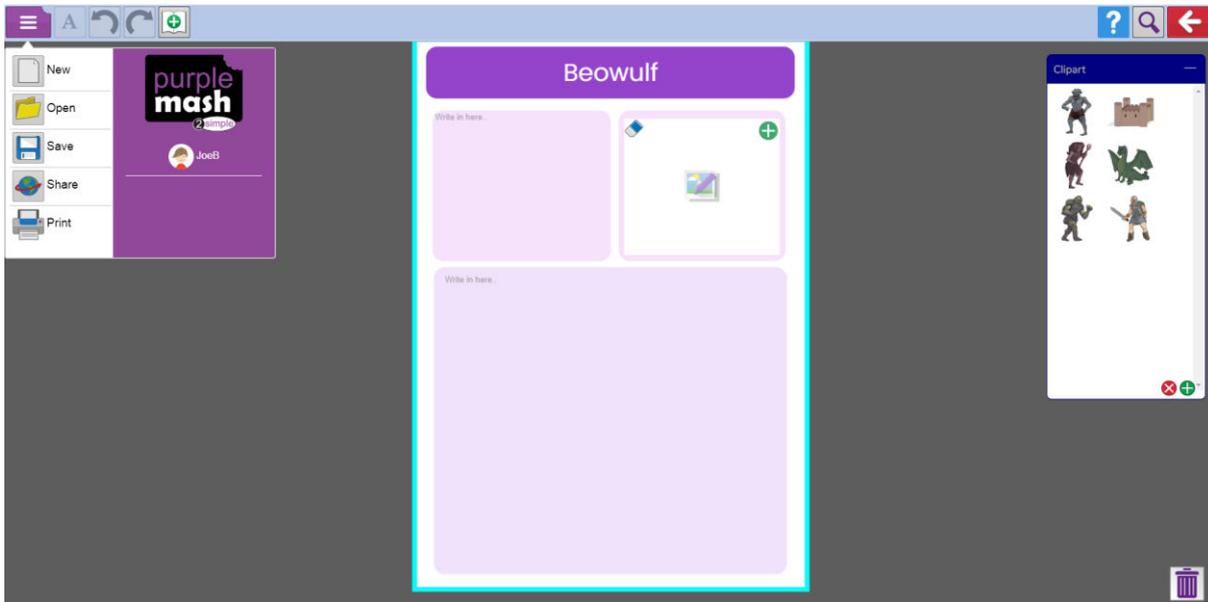The red 2Do button can be accessed from the top left hand corner of the screen.

Once clicked, your child's 2Do tasks will appear bellow in blue. They will turn green once completed.
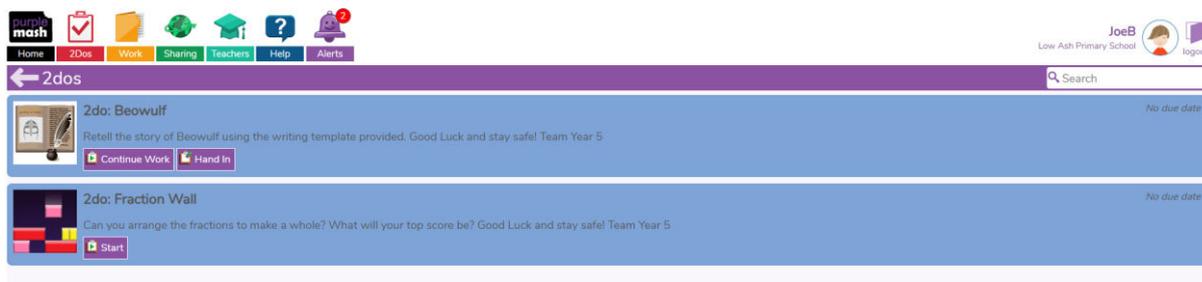
Handing work in

Children are able to save their work at any time by clicking the three horizontal lines in the top left hand corner of the screen. Once clicked, there is a 'save' option. The work automatically saves as their own name.

Once a piece of work has been saved, a 'Hand in' button will appear next to the 2Do task. Children must click 'Hand in' in order ot submit their work. Please note, this should only be done once they are happy that their work is complete. The task will turn green to show that it has been handed in.

2Do Frequency

We believe that during this period of time at home, your child's wellbeing is of upmost importance. Whilst we are keen for him/her to use these online resources, we are also conscious that this should be balanced with time spent outside and a wide range of additional activities. Therefore your child can expect to receive no more than three separate Purple Mash activities per week. This will typically include a writing based task as well as one or two tasks that link to the wider curriculum.

We understand that there will be varying levels of participation and general accessibility to the online tasks we are setting for our pupils. Whilst we will encourage and monitor participation and engagement in Purple Mash, we understand that some children may be learning at home in other ways.
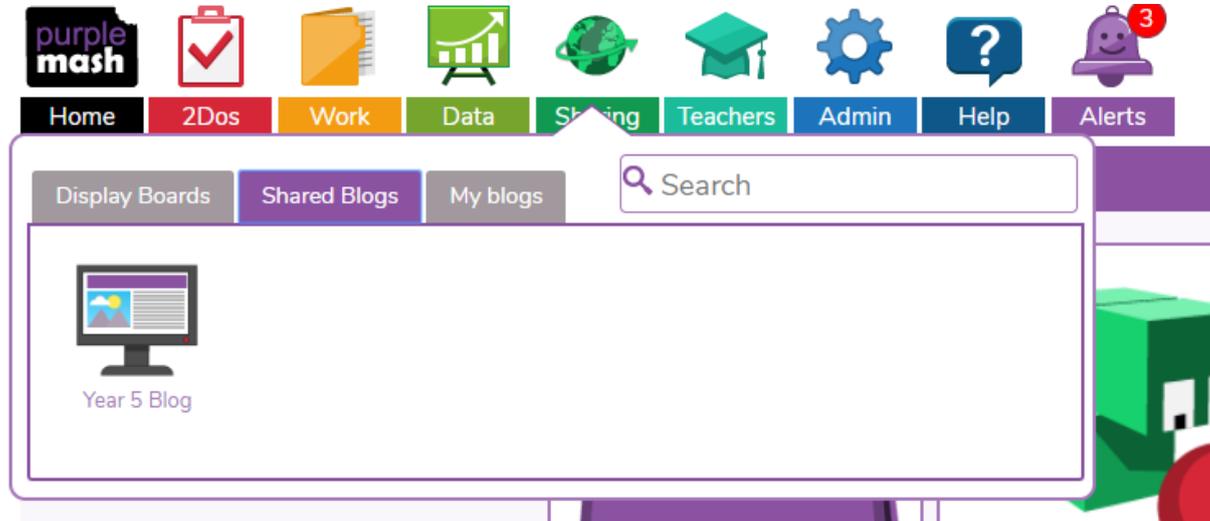
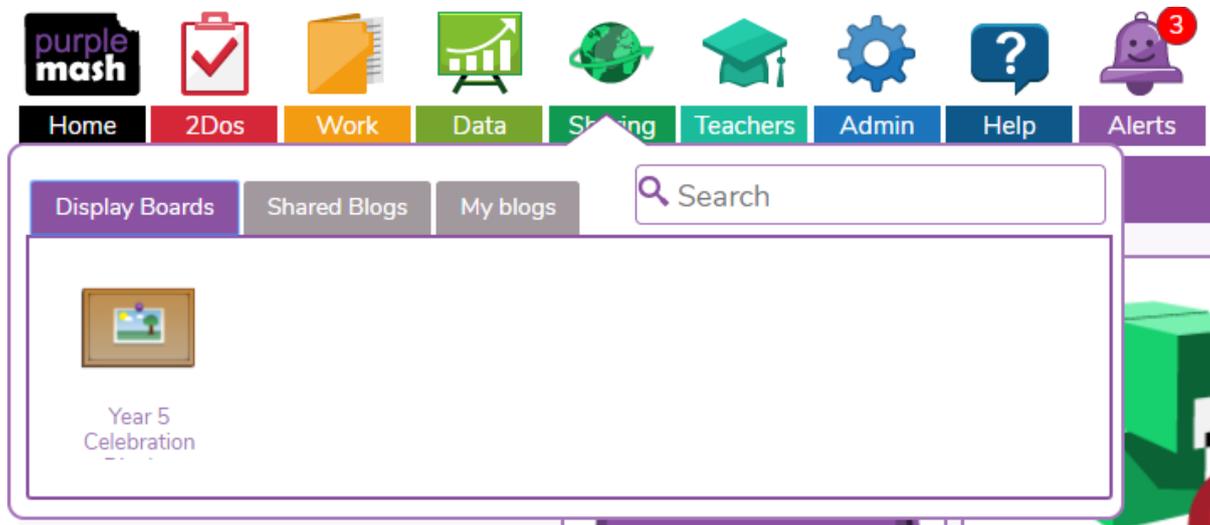Co-Headteachers
Fiona Meer
Beth Medhurst

Communication

Going forward, we would like to use a **year group blog** for students, teachers and parents to communicate. The blog can be found by clicking on the green '**sharing**' button at the top of the Purple Mash homescreen. Once clicked, you must click on the 'Shared Blogs' tab and select 'Year 5 Blog'. We hope that this facility will provide you and your child with additional support.

Please note, the Year 5 team will endeavour to respond to your questions and queries as soon as possible. We thank you in advance for your patience and understanding regarding this.
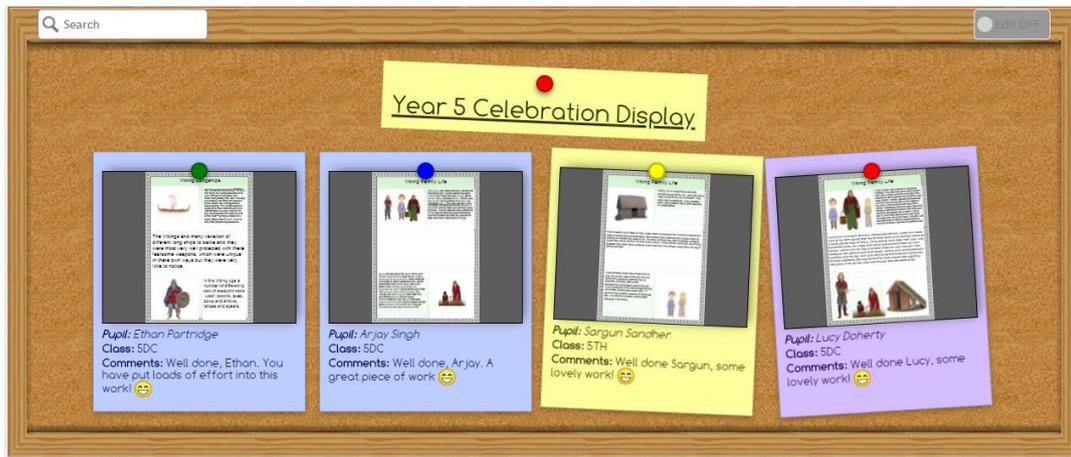
Celebrating Achievements

As a further incentive for your child, we have set up a 'Year 5 Celebration Display'. We will be using this as an online digital display board where we will showcase quality pieces of work-we have already shared four pieces of work that we are particularly impressed with!

Co-Headteachers
Fiona Meer
Beth Medhurst

We hope that this feature will provide your child with some much needed motivation during what is understandably a very difficult time.

Additional Learning Resources
Please continue to use the range of additional website that we signposted you to in our previous letter:

- Timestable Rockstars
- myMaths
- Pobble 365
- Spelling Frame

In addition, here are some other useful websites for you to consider:

https://apliteracy.com
This is a super website from Alison Philipson who has worked on writing and reading with Bradford schools for a number of years. Once you have accessed the website, scroll down and click on 'Children's Hub'. From there, click on your child's year group and click on the task you would like to do. Once a week, there will be a story time video and a reading task video and a link to a writing task based on grammar which must be accessed using a device with Microsoft Word.

www.themathsfactor.com
This a website developed by Carol Vorderman which has recently been made free to use, amidst the COVID-19 crisis. Pupils can take part in a range of maths based games linked to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevenses
Each day at 11am, David Walliams will be sharing one of his stories aloud with the general public. This is a lovely opportunity to hear a story each day in your house.

The Bodycoach TV (YouTube)
If you have not already seen this in the news, online influencer and exercise specialist- Joe Wicks- is currently hosting a daily workout session called 'PE with Joe' whereby children (and adults!) participate in some free daily exercise. This has been popular at Low Ash so far this week and we encourage as many people as possible to take part in this daily event at 9am. Just search 'PE with Joe' in YouTube.

We hope that you find this information useful. Please stay safe and enjoy your learning

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Carr & Mr Handley - Year 5 Class Teachers

Co-Headteachers
Fiona Meer
Beth Medhurst