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Principal: Mrs C. Patterson

Dear parents/carers,

Hope you are all continuing to remain safe and well.

One thing that has struck me, since school closed, is how incredibly strong our school community is. The building may be shut to most of you and staff may be working from home, but Elliston still remains a team. This is evident in the communications between school and families.

We continue to enjoy seeing your many photos and messages. I am incredibly proud of the fact that the work we have done with our children around learning behaviours and the love of learning shines through the activities you are doing, despite us all not being together.

You will have seen a lot of talk on the news about the re-opening of schools and this can cause further worries and questions. We do not know when school will open and for which pupils yet. As soon as we can let you know this, we will. There will be many things for us to consider in terms of practicalities, and our Trust will ensure school have all the guidance we need to support you and us. We will not open until it is safe.

I know many of you will be concerned about the 'catch up' that may be needed in terms of learning but we will work hard before and after school opens, to ensure children are given additional support needed. It is important, however, to remember two things; one, every single child in the country has had disruption to their learning and all schools are very aware of this and two, children are extremely resilient. Look how well they have coped so far and they will cope with any future changes, with your support and our support.

I know there are many reasons why children may not be doing some of the learning set and I want to reassure you about this. Your most important role is making sure your children are happy and safe. We recommend, at the very least, the following are done regularly:

- Reading any books or listening to a story being read (this could be online also). Look out for our reading challenge being launched for Monday!
- Phonics or spelling practice, whichever is most appropriate. If your child can spell more
  words than before they left school, this would be great. Refer to the word lists in their
  learning packs.
- Maths facts you cannot go wrong with helping your child to know the times tables facts
  inside out! Support them to learn them in any way possible you won't believe how much this
  will help when they are back to maths lessons. Use TT Rockstars to help with this.



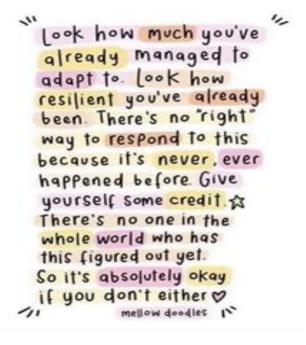


Foundation Stage and Y1 will be sent some information regarding access to a number programme to support them.

All of our learning team members are available on Teams to support learning as needed so please encourage your child to log on and communicate with their class, this will also help for when we are back in school learning again.

Send my love to all your children and tell them I miss them all very much but I am so pleased to know they are happy and safe, staying at home to protect the NHS. It is Thursday so staff will be showing their support for the key workers again at 8pm - have you seen our video on Facebook?

I saw this today and wanted to pass it on to you all



Please do not hesitate to ring the school office if you have any questions or queries at all. As ever, a huge thank you goes out to all of your support and the support of my staff.

With love

Mrs Patterson



