

Care, Collaboration, Challenge

Friday 29th January 2021

Dear Parent

Like me, I'm sure you felt disappointment when hearing that schools will not return in full after the half term break. I would like to thank all those parents at home that are juggling work commitments and home schooling too. As a school, we realise how difficult this is. You are doing a fantastic job.

We now know that we will be doing this for at least another four weeks. We want to support you as much as we possibly can, so please do not hesitate to contact us if you need anything. As a school, we are providing work for each day, ensuring that there is a mix of subjects. We have also started a weekly live meeting on Microsoft Teams. If your child hasn't joined one of these yet, please look out for the invite. It is an opportunity for your child to speak to their class teacher, to their friends at home and to discuss any concerns that they have about their learning. We know that for some children this will be an additional pressure, but we ask that you encourage them to try a session. Hopefully they'll enjoy it and want to continue.

We know that home schooling is tough and your children will have good days and bad days. Please do not make home schooling a battle ground. If you're finding it difficult to motivate your child, please contact your child's class teacher on Class Dojo. Don't worry if at times your child does not finish all of the lessons for the day. Try and stick to a routine and post any work that your child does do onto Class Dojo. That way, a member of staff can check your child's work and give feedback. Also, if a piece of work seems to be taking too long to do, and your child is flagging, please stop. Post what your child has done, with a message to the class teacher. We don't always finish what has been planned within a classroom lesson, so this would be no different at home.

Thank you for your patience as our staff respond to your messages, messages from your children and give feedback on work posted on Class Dojo. On our busiest day this week, we had 44% of our children in school, so our teaching staff are sharing teaching responsibilities and also planning work for home schooling. This means that they will not always be able to respond to messages instantly.

If your child is ill, please inform your child's class teacher, through Class Dojo. That way, we will not be expecting work from them that day. If your child tests positive for Coronavirus, please inform the school office. Even though they are not in school, we need to keep a record of positive cases.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if there is anything else that we can do to support you.

Yours faithfully

A. Willett