

8th January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Remote Learning across the school from Monday 11th January

As we come to the end of our first week of remote learning I wanted to reach out to you all to outline some changes we will be making from next week.

This week has been incredibly challenging for us all. We fully understand the pressures many of you are under and that remote learning can be overwhelming. Our aim is to attempt to build a sense of connection between school and home and of course to ensure the children retain what they have learnt during the Autumn Term and continue to build on this.

However, I want to reassure you of a few things:

- * The most important outcome of this situation is that we all get through these next few weeks physically and mentally
- * Remote learning is there to support you and your children to learn at home everyday whilst the virus is brought under control. If you can't log in every day or your child becomes distressed or it doesn't fit in with your work schedule please do not stress. If the children need to engage in something different such as BBC lessons or you just need to take a break or a walk then this is ok.
- * There may be problems that arise with technology. If you can't log in, don't have sound or the technology doesn't work for any reason please just log off and try again. Staff can't generally help with technical problems but will when they can. Do what you think is right for your child, have a go at the daily work by reading the instructions or watching any videos provided or simply do an alternative if that's easier.
- * If you only have one device and more than one child who needs to use it just do your best – we understand.
- * If you don't have a printer again don't worry. Just copy work out if you can or the children can just write their answers on paper.
- * Reach out to us where you need to – we will do our best to help you.

Change of platform from Monday

Prior to this term we have not had much call to use remote learning not having to close many bubbles for longer than a couple of days. The use of class dojo was fine for a short period of time. We have listened to many of you who have found class dojo more challenging to navigate for the amount of work now being supplied.

With this in mind we will be moving over to Teams as our platform of choice from Monday. Year 4 and Year 6 have



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been trialing it yesterday and today and the feedback from parents is that it is easier to navigate, work can be placed together and downloaded more easily for those who don't want to complete it on screen.

I have attached a guide for parents on how to access the children's work. Mr Dickson has also very kindly made some videos for you to watch and we hope to do more as we learn more. The videos are short and can be found here:

How to log into TEAMS and Microsoft 365: <https://youtu.be/k3S8Lw3zeQU>

How to log in to a Teams call: <https://youtu.be/JvfcyogIXLA>

How to find and submit an assigned piece of work: https://youtu.be/WN_aD2t0-1Q

How to view feedback and marking from the teacher: <https://youtu.be/BTgdseqFauo>

Staff will feedback to work as much as possible. Each day staff will explain to children which piece of work will get more detailed feedback. This will be rotated regularly. All work will be acknowledged by awarding points but some will have more complex feedback with specific challenges that may require further responses from the children – if you are able to.

One afternoon a week, teachers will take some time to plan the week ahead so will be unavailable to contact as is normal practice in school. This will most likely be a Friday afternoon but if it is different they will let you know.

Today I have added an assignment that the children may like to do. This is purely to allow you to explore the system before Monday. Please don't feel you have to do the activity although I've tried to make it as fun as possible should your child wish to!

We hope that TEAMS will allow remote learning to become less overwhelming for yourselves and the children. Of course there may be some technical issues which we will continue to respond to. We are learning new things on the platform everyday and receiving support from the Trust on how best to use it to enhance our offer.

Virtual Live 'Time with my Teacher'

This have been going very well and calls are developing each day as children and staff find a routine and pattern.

I know many of you have requested more live time with the teacher. Whilst this is something we would love to be able to provide more of, please bear with us while we juggle critical worker care and plan for the weeks ahead.



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Headteacher Mrs G Smith

Many schools are not providing any 'Live' teaching. Currently we have to work with our context when we can we may be in a position to increase this.

Times will remain as outlined next week. Teachers will try to remain within their half an hour due to siblings who may need to be on another call. If there is important information they may go slightly over or ask to keep a certain group of children is something further needs to be explained or gone over. If your child needs to leave the call to allow a sibling to log on they can and also don't worry if you arrive slightly later to a call. You can join at any time.

Thank you once again for your support. Our aim is always to enable the children to flourish and shine in all they do as per our vision statement. We will also endeavor to ensure our values of Compassion, perseverance, friendship, respect and honesty continue to guide all we do and of course the over arching value of love guide our decision-making process.

I hope when it arrives you can all have a peaceful and safe weekend.

Kind regards,

Mrs Smith
Head Teacher



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