



8th January 2021

Dear parents and carers,

At the end of a really challenging week, I wanted to write to you to thank you for your help and engagement so far and to recap our approach over the next half-term. Whilst the abrupt timing of the government's announcement on Monday evening was somewhat of a surprise, it was nevertheless a possibility we have spent time thinking about and planning for throughout the year. Although not being able to attend as normal, our approach is to enable teachers to facilitate learning at home, remotely, using high-quality resources and interacting with pupils throughout the day.

Quantity

The government expect all schools to provide at least three hours of daily learning for children in Year 1 and 2 (or less for Reception) and four hours of daily learning for children in Year 3,4,5 and 6. This is made up of direct recorded teaching time and the time for pupils to complete tasks. We will offer each day an English lesson, a Maths Lesson, and a lesson from our foundation subjects, alongside other activities.

We are aware every family has different and unique circumstances and there is **no compulsion on children to complete absolutely everything** on offer each day. We do expect all children to be engaged with their learning every day for as much as is possible in their individual circumstances. Where engagement is problematic, for whatever reason, we will work with families to identify solutions.

Teaching and Resources

Our remote learning follows, as far as possible, the planned curriculum for each year group. In the main, lessons are delivered with selected video content and supported with resources and activities. We aim for children to be as independent as possible in engaging with their learning, supported remotely by their teachers, however we understand younger children require higher levels of parental support.

Interactivity

To facilitate pupil independence at home, we are utilising the interactivity of our learning platform SeeSaw (and Tapestry for Reception). Lessons and resources are shared and commented on by teachers, providing feedback, guidance and support whilst aiding teacher assessment of work. We appreciate that SeeSaw is a new platform and will take some time to become accustomed to, but we are really encouraged by the fantastic engagement this week as children and families get to grips with it. As we proceed, we hope pupils will become really familiar with its functions and this will further increase their independence in accessing learning. We have planned for this resource to support home/school interactivity both now and in the future.

Overcoming barriers

We are here every step of the way to support, guide, answer queries, and provide solutions to this way of working to ensure all of our children continue learning remotely throughout lockdown. Our teachers are on hand throughout the school day, to interact with your child, guide their learning and help where needed. If you are facing a particular challenge, we want to help find a solution so let us know through the usual channels. SeeSaw have a really [helpful centre](#) for families seeking assistance.

In closing, I have been reminded once again this week of the tremendous power words have for good or ill in our world. As we all grapple with the challenges lockdown presents once more, may we take time to speak words of positivity and blessing over ourselves and others. Let's continue to be kind to one another as we engage in remote learning next week and beyond. Thank you as always for your support.

Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength – Nehemiah 8:10

Yours sincerely,



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Headteacher



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