



Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well I am struggling to come to terms with the fact that it is only Wednesday morning as I write this letter. The announcement from the Government on Monday evening has certainly changed the way that we operate in such a short space of time. Can I begin by saying thank you. Thank you for your kind messages, patience and support as we embark on a new period of remote learning. Of course this is not what any of us would choose to do but I fully accept that it is necessary to close the school to the majority of pupils so that we can address the Public Health Pandemic that we are in.

As a parent of two children I know the trials and tribulations of remote learning from home. Access to devices, internet use and differing demands according to the age of pupils, all whilst trying to complete my own work. Be kind to yourself and remember that every little moment helps. We are here to support you along the way and hope that our suite of remote learning activities will help engage and motivate the children so that we limit the effect of another National lockdown.

We remain open for children of critical workers. We already have more children in school than the previous lockdown and would like to remind you all that you should only send your child to school if you have no other childcare arrangements. You are permitted to use childcare bubbles in this lockdown. Please can I ask that you bear this in mind when you send the children into school. If there is someone at home who can look after your child they should do. My main concern is to safeguard the children and staff against the spread of the virus which is why school closures were announced. At the moment all staff are currently in school supporting the children.

We can offer a flexible option to help with shift patterns from one week to the next. Children who attend school are expected to work on their remote learning set by teachers. Please make sure they have all the equipment that they need. Children should wear school uniform and have a coat.

We are also committed to keeping both the Breakfast Club and After School Clubs open as critical workers don't work from 9am-3pm. Please book as usual through ParentPay.

You will be aware by now that we are using Google Classrooms as our main way to conduct remote learning. Teachers are committed to daily contact with class and I have already seen Y5 complete an online live session with children in class and at home. I am proud of the way the teaching staff have got this up and running with very little notice and hope that this will support you with remote learning at home. We also hope to deliver 'live' sessions every day using Google Meet. More information on the specifics of these to follow. All classes should be sending work out in the morning with an expectation that work should be completed by 3.30pm.

Thank you for your continued support and stay safe.

Mr Geaves

*Working together to be the best we can*

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