

Friday 15 January 2021

Dear parents

Whole school letter

We now have come to the end of the second week of term which has looked very different to the norm. I do hope you and your families are keeping safe and well during these times and remember we are here to help in any way we can.

It has been wonderful that the children from year 1 to year 6 have all received a chromebook which they can use at home. I know you will agree it is an incredible opportunity for our children and I'm sure it has enabled those children who are accessing the remote learning from home to do so more easily. There was a real buzz last Friday as the parents were picking up the chromebooks and I know the teachers have had such positive feedback from the children (and parents!) so thank you. Please do check out our [school website](#) if you require any further information about the chromebooks, including helpful guides and videos on troubleshooting.

The teachers have been working extremely hard to produce high quality remote learning which is motivating and inspiring for those children who are at home. It's lovely to hear how the daily live streamed sessions and the daily drop-in sessions (for year 1 upwards) were so welcomed by the children and the parents. A big thank you to all the staff for all their hard work with providing remote learning and their willingness to take on new challenges! I'm sure you will appreciate that the staff themselves are having to juggle home life commitments and many of the staff are also in school working with the children who are coming in.

The work being submitted is also amazing and I can see first hand how hard the children are working from home. We may not all be together at the moment, but it is great how the children have the stability of the live sessions and equipment to stay connected to their teachers and friends.

We also very much appreciate that it is a difficult and daunting time for parents at home who are having to support their children with remote learning. I know many of you are having to juggle work and other commitments, have more than one child and are not teachers yourselves! But you are doing a marvellous job and thank you for your support and patience. We do our best to minimise the potential for technical issues but they cannot always be predicted!

Of course remote learning cannot replace children being in the classroom with a teacher but the Government expectation is for schools to plan assignments so that learning is of equivalent length to the teaching pupils would receive in school (minimum 3 hours per day for KS1 and a minimum of 4 hours per day for KS2 pupils). Assignments also have to follow the curriculum children would usually be taught in school including across the full range of subjects. The timetable provided on Tapestry and Google Classrooms is intended to help structure the learning so that assignments are spread across the week. Please do [click here](#) to view a copy of our remote learning policy which is posted on our website.

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Remember, if you have any questions about the work you can always contact the class teacher and children (year 1 upwards) can ask questions directly to a teacher during their daily drop in session. Sue Denny, Deputy Headteacher, has the overarching responsibility of the quality and delivery of remote education and she can be contacted via the school office if you have any further questions around this.

On another note, The Pantry, are requesting that all lunch orders that are on the online Pantry system are cancelled (even if your child requires a lunch) otherwise parents may be charged for meals that are not required. Those who do require lunch should then re-order the meal for their child.

Finally, The national free school meals voucher scheme will be available again to provide support to families during term time, instead of the food hampers. Families who are in receipt of free school meals will receive the vouchers next week via email directly from Edenred.

As always do please contact the school if you have any questions or would like any support. Thank you all for your continued support.

With my very best wishes to you and your families

Tijen Hassan
Headteacher