

Otterham C P School

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Dear Parents

Firstly, thank you for your communication, cooperation, appreciation and support over the past few days. What a week! I would also like to express my thanks to all of the staff within the school who, despite increasing levels of anxiety, have done what they do best, which is pull together for the benefit of the whole school community.

The level of engagement with the remote learning this week has been astounding, especially throughout KS2, which has probably largely been down to the fact there are face to face sessions between teacher and pupil on a daily basis. Face-to-face sessions for children in Class 3 are to start on Monday 11th, the timings for which should now have been sent out to you. The expectation for engagement with home/remote learning has indeed risen since the first lockdown and daily 'attendance' is a requirement unless there are extenuating circumstances which should be communicated to the class teacher, for example - illness, medical appointments, family commitments. Having said this, I would also like to impress upon you the need to be mindful of the emotional wellbeing of yourselves and your children. If you are feeling overwhelmed or your child(ren) are struggling with expectations, please do not hesitate to make contact with the class teacher who will provide help and support. All staff are here on site every day and are more than willing to help make this experience work for everyone. We have deliberately made the afternoon face-to-face session an optional one as a family walk out in the fresh air may be what is required. Please find our new Remote Learning Policy on the school website, which outlines current expectations. We intend to carry out a short survey at the end of next week to gather feedback, which will inform how we move forward.

On the subject of remote learning, there are a few expectations regarding safeguarding and behaviour that I would like to draw your attention to;

- 1) Please consider the location of your child during live online sessions. (What can be seen or heard in the background?)
- 2) There are to be no photographs, screenshots or recordings of screens or sessions.
- 3) The behaviour online should reflect the expected behaviours in the classroom.

As a staff, we have spent time considering the Keyworker list and those children who we feel would benefit from the additional support we can offer if a child is in school. We feel we have communicated with everyone necessary, however if you feel we can be of further support to you and your family, please do not hesitate to contact the school. We will be more than happy to be of assistance.

Kindest regards

Helen Ward



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