

# King Street Primary & Pre - School

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22/1/21

Dear Parents/Carers

Well, we are now half way through this half term and for many I am sure it has felt like a long 3 weeks. We all feel that there is so much uncertainty at the moment that it adds the stresses of everyday life. I would like to say that you are all doing an amazing job - even if you tell us that sometimes it doesn't feel like it. The lockdown this time feels different in so many ways: the weather is not as nice, the dark nights are here and the expectation from the Government that schools provide a much more robust remote learning package means that everyone is finding this one much harder. Please do not feel that you are failing in any way - parents across the country are telling schools that it is hard, they are stressed and children are so much more tired than a normal school day. Remember too, schools are legally obliged to set the work but it is your decision as a parent how you manage this within the home. School staff are keeping in contact by phone and emails and we are here to help. We can chat to you and your child and we hopefully reassure you that whatever work you are doing with your child, however much it is, your child will not suffer. As we did in September, we will reassess where children are at when they return and teach them accordingly - that is our job!

Week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> February is National Mental Health Week and in support of this we will be relaxing the remote learning to promote activities which support positive mental health. Each class teacher will set activities that we hope you will enjoy - not endure! We would also love to see what you can add to the list of activities and would encourage you to upload photos to our King Street Primary Facebook page. When uploading a photo please do not identify your child by name (initials are fine). Our striders group is gaining momentum and we would welcome more people to join the group and add to the miles walked/ran. This week we have accumulated 154 miles at the time of writing - there are 813 miles from Land's End to John O'Groats in our Strava challenge. Hopefully, as Spring is just around the corner and the weather improves we will see more and more families join.

Next week, in school, sees the introduction of lateral flow tests for all staff. These are undertaken by staff twice a week and should add to the stringent safety measures already in place to keep your child safe. They are designed to pick up asymptomatic cases of the virus and help prevent it spread. We are hopeful that this is another positive step towards a return to normal. We are desperate to see all of our children back in school safely and look forward to a time when we can welcome you all back in for our wonderful events. We just need to stay positive in the short term.

I would also like to remind families that we are not just here to help educationally. We are at the heart of our community and would like to think that families turn to us when they need some support. We currently have access to a Family Fund which can finance electrical items, bedding, clothing and much more - all you need to do is ask. We also still have free Wifi cards available for families struggling with internet access and we have a limited number of school tablets for loan. We have also been advised by Citizen's Advice that there is an Energy Advice project where families can be provided with help with fuel vouchers, fuel debts, smart meters, grant applications and energy tariffs. Their contact number is 03444111444 or [citizensadvice.org.uk](http://citizensadvice.org.uk)

As always, if there is anything you would like to discuss or anything is concerning you please contact me through the school office. We are here to help.

Yours Sincerely  
Joanne Bromley  
Head Teacher