



OUR SCHOOL VALUES: RESPECT - UNDERSTANDING – PEACE – HONESTY – RESPONSIBILITY - TEAMWORK

22nd January 2021

Dear Parents

Phew! What a start to the new term it has been. I can't believe we have just completed week three and are mid-way through the first half term already! The last few weeks have been a rollercoaster for everyone and I know that in many ways this Lockdown is much harder for us all than the Spring or Autumn Lockdowns. Once again I am so proud of everyone, staff and families who are all doing their best to support each other and to ensure that the children continue to learn and progress as they would in school. The expectations of the government on children and families are much higher this time and I am really pleased with what our school has been able to offer and with the fantastic support you have all provided.

Remote Learning

Thank you to the 99 parents who responded to our questionnaire regarding remote learning. This has really helped us to check that what we are offering is both manageable and in line with the government's expectations. We have been delighted with the positive feedback and feel so pleased that all the planning and delivery is having an impact. A Contingency Plan outlining our remote provision will be on the website from next week. Thank you to the Year 4 families who have welcomed Mrs Luckman (remotely) to the class and been patient with her as she got to grips with so many new things. I am sure you appreciate how hard it has been getting to know and teach children via a computer screen rather than face to face! I know she is looking forward to seeing more of you all over the live lessons in the coming weeks (and even more to seeing you in class!).

Overall, parents reported that the balance between providing tasks, and live or recorded lessons was about right. Unsurprisingly, there are a range of feelings regarding this as due to each family's specific circumstance, some methods suit some families more than others. It is also reassuring to know that generally children are spending the correct amount of time stipulated by the government on their learning (KS1 – 3 hours & KS2 4 hours). Some parents have requested that work be posted in advance so that they can get ahead with printing the night before. Teachers work in different ways and often lessons rightly change over the week responding to the needs of the children. Teachers are aware and will help where they can or in specific circumstances.

Just in case anyone is unsure, we are asking that work be uploaded by **4 pm the day after** it has been set. This allows parents the evenings to upload work if needed. Work set on a Friday will be marked if it is uploaded up to 4pm on the Monday following the weekend, but teachers would prefer to have it sooner than that if at all possible. Thank you for your support with this. One frustration teachers have found is when children have completed the set work **prior to their live lesson**. Therefore if, for example your child has a maths lesson later in the day, please ask them to work on different subjects until the maths tasks have been explained through the live lesson. Thank you to the many parents who have found ways to upload single pieces of work as one document. This has made such a difference and helped staff use their time more effectively.

Celebration Assembly

I do hope all families have been able to access and watch our recorded Celebration Assembly this week (some surprised faces I am sure!). If you have not seen it, please do have look on your child's eSchools page under Projects where these will be posted each Friday during this Lockdown period. Certificates will be emailed at the end of each week.

E-safety – Tech Quiz

Hazard Alley, on behalf of Parentzone, are running a free online Digital Families Quiz, aimed at helping families enjoy a more positive digital life. The quiz is aimed at parents - or anyone with parenting

responsibility – and secondary age children. As well as testing tech. knowledge, it encourages families to share experiences, build communication and close the digital gap between young people and their parents. They are running the session on Monday, 25th January at 7pm and it lasts approximately 1 hour including 3 rounds of questions. Interested families will need a connected device and a pen/paper. If you are interested please email Katherine Adams (School Liaison Officer) katherine@safetycentre.co.uk, who will share a password protected zoom link for the session.

Thank you once again for all that you are doing to work with us and to support your children. Please do reach out to us if you are struggling with a particular area so we can see if we can help in any way. We really want all our children to continue to flourish during this challenging time and will help in any way possible.

I will leave you with my 'fogbow' picture as shown in the Celebration Assembly and encourage you to get out in the countryside this weekend if you can. You never know, maybe there will be a 'fogbow' or some other remarkable phenomena!

Kind regards
Mrs R Phillips
Headteacher

Listen to [Somewhere over the Rainbow - What a Wonderful World](#) by Israel Kamakawiwo'ole and perhaps dream about visiting a tropical island one day!



'What a wildly wonderful world, God! You made it all, with Wisdom at your side, made earth overflow with your wonderful creations.' Psalm 104 V24