

ENGAGEMENT ENJOYMENT ENTHUSIASM = EXCELLENCE.

Headteacher: Mrs. Wendy D'Arcy



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Monday 14th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I wanted to provide you with some information regarding the schools' approach to teaching and learning at Hardwicke.

As we can all recall, many children did not attend school for several months in the summer term as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic. Equally, some children will have forgotten what they have learned previously. I therefore put this into two categories; one of 'missed' learning and one of 'lost' learning. Missed learning is precisely that-the learning that the children 'missed' during the summer term as a result of school closures. 'Lost learning' refers to learning that children have 'lost' or forgotten over time.

Therefore, in order to understand what the children have 'lost' and or 'forgotten', we have been giving the children a 'quiz' in reading, phonics and mathematics. The outcomes from the 'quiz' will specifically identify what the children have lost or forgotten. This information will then be used to plan learning from for the autumn term so that any gaps in the children's learning will be addressed. These gaps in children's learning in three waves. Wave one-through whole class teaching where previous or missed learning is revisited. Wave two, through small group targeted and specific learning in addition to whole class learning. Wave three, on a one to one/one to two specific learning in addition to whole class teaching. The wave two and wave three additional support will be for a short, specific period of time-no longer that six weeks and progress will be measured. It is important to note that the groups/individuals that need the additional support in order to get them back on track, will change over time. If your child needs an additional boost, please do not worry as this will be happening across the nation! However, you will be informed if this is the case and you may be asked to support with specific learning at home with your child.

I know that several parents/carers have been in contact with the school with regards to MyPlan reviews. Once the children have completed the 'quiz' and teachers have identified the gaps, Mrs Gregory will then be in touch to organise a review meeting and set targets. Please be assured that even if your child's Myplan has not been reviewed, we will start addressing the gaps immediately so to avoid any delay.

It is also recognised, that some children and families, in addition to academic support, may also need emotional support as a result of the pandemic. Again this is being addressed in three waves; whole class, small groups and where necessary, on a one to one or as a family. We are very fortunate to have a great pastoral team here-many of you all know very well, who can provide the emotional support that some

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children might need. Again-this will be flexible and change over time, depending on the needs of individuals and families.

With regards to communication to school, in my newsletter, I made the request that all communication about concerns, worries and children's learning please come directly to slt@hardwicke.gloucs.sch.uk. You can of course telephone the school and a member of the SLT will return your call as soon as they possibly can and within 24 hours of receiving it. This is the same with any email communication, we will respond within 24 hours during the working week, or on a Monday morning if it comes in across the weekend. Anything else should continue to go to admin@hardwicke.glouc.sch.uk. Many thanks for your support with this.

As always, any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Wendy D'Arcy'.

Wendy D'Arcy
Headteacher

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