

NEWSLETTER

Friday 15 January 2021
Spring Term Issue 01

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you are all well and safe. You will probably be getting tired of messages from me at the moment so I shall try and keep this short and sweet.

Firstly, a thank you for your continued support and kind words. This week has seen us complete the first full week of home learning and I would like to thank all the staff who have stepped up and risen to the challenge again. I would also like to thank parents for being so understanding and patient in any glitches that may have arisen (or will no doubt arise). But the real thanks and accolade must go to the children. I can only imagine what it is like being a child in 2020/2021. How their understanding and processing of this pandemic is playing out for them. Perhaps they are feeling a mixture of fear, anxiety, loss, sadness, anger and confusion. Or perhaps they are blissfully unaware of the enormity of things - I certainly hope this is the case. The truth is, no one really knows 'exactly' how they are feeling - every child will be feeling slightly different due to their own personal circumstances, as well as many other factors. We must always bear this in mind - especially with the changed focus in expectations of home learning this time around.

These expectations may be causing some parents real anxieties. I have recently put together a FAQ sheet that might be helpful when delivering lessons at home. You will probably have noticed that there are far more resources this time around and far more opportunities to tap into 'live' or recorded

sessions. I just want to try and reiterate the point that it is not, nor will it ever be our goal, to hound or hassle you with regards to home learning. Yes, expectations are much higher and yes, we will be continually checking, feeding back and continually pushing home learning, but at no point will we ever try and add to your pressure. Home learning is hard - that is a fact! Whatever you are doing is great and we are here to help. So please pace yourselves - take your time to figure out routines and establish good working patterns. Be prepared for things to change at the drop of a hat, and as I always tell the teachers - have a plan B for when plan A goes wrong. That said, your plan B might be to down tools, go for a walk and start again later or the next day. Our job (yourselves and us) is particularly challenging at the moment - we are trying to balance high expectations of learning and avoid gaps appearing vs the mental wellbeing of children. So please remember, we are here to support you.

Take care and enjoy your weekend as much as you can.

Have a great weekend
Kieran Walsh

Lannergrams

Well done to everyone who received a Lannergram this week:

Y1: Indie G, Frankie S, Finley W

Y2: Evelyn A, Ruben V, Caitlin W

Y3: Phoebe H, Joshua M, Declan R

Y4: Matilda C, Jess C, Jowan E

Y5: Madisyn B, Bethany B, Mason M, Ella T

Y6: Daisy A, Liam B