



12<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope the first week of remote learning went as well as it possibly could, given the short notice. It is likely that by now you have identified the things that worked well and the things that did not. We have in school! We received so many positive messages from parents and carers after the first TEAMS meetings, thank you.

We received guidance regarding remote education from the Government on Thursday evening. This has led to some changes of our planned systems.

### **TEAMS**

We plan to offer each class a daily check in. This will replace the weekly telephone call. This means that at a regular time each day (Mon - Fri) your child will interact with the teacher and their peers through the TEAMS digital provision. This will not be a taught lesson, but a chance to stay connected as a class, the teacher may choose this time to take an assembly, have a discussion or set and complete small tasks that are not necessarily linked to national curriculum learning. **A register will be taken daily and it is expected that your child attends.** No attendance after 3 days, without school contact, will result in a phone call or even a visit to the home address. This mirrors our school Attendance Policy. Our Safeguarding procedures are as important now, as they ever have been. **Please stay in contact with school.**

Class Daily Checks:

9:00am - Birch	9:30am - Acorn	10:00am - Maple	11:00am - Cherry
11:30am - Elm	1:00pm - Elder	1:30pm - Oak	2:30pm - Apple
3:00pm - Chestnut	3:00pm - Sycamore	-	

Alongside the daily checks, we hope to offer some live or recorded teaching sessions. It is difficult to do this as well as teach in school and therefore, this will be different between phases. You will look in the 'posts' section of your TEAM to find live sessions and in the 'Files' section for recorded sessions. Your teacher will remind you during the daily chat and you can always ask them or use your lockdown e-mail address. The chat facility on TEAMS is for use only during the session. This will not be used by staff at other times, please use the lockdown e-mail address to support learning.

### **Remote Learning**

**This continues to be available on the website: Covid-19/Remote Learning/class or Year group.** This is loaded to the website Friday afternoons. Please spend a

moment to look at the Remote Learning/ Introduction page. This is where we place the generic resources that can be used across the school. Currently it houses the TEAMS and Login guides for websites.

We are very aware that all families are different, just as all children are. We want remote learning to work as best it can and so we have kept it as simple as possible. We do not want to be the reason to add more stress and worry to families, who may be holding down jobs or coping with illness in a global pandemic. We hope our expectations are achievable for children and families as a whole. Please don't be tempted to compare with other families – you are doing your best, as are we, in exceptional circumstances.

The timetables available for each class and the work given, does mirror the work in class, but by asking for only 3 pieces to be sent back to us, allows families the flexibility to plan and organise what they can manage at home – not replicate the school day. **The 3 pieces of work are expected to be handed into school.** We have chosen these pieces as they are key learning, offer a variety and will contribute to assessment of progress over time. Do remember children are not sat at desks or a screen for 5 hours a day at school. Allow breaks between tasks. Short interactions as a family spread throughout the day will offer a better learning environment for the children. You know your family circumstances and your children, prioritise what works best for you.

### **Devices**

Although our government order for laptops is on hold, we have worked hard this week to get as many laptops as possible ready for home use. These are of varying quality, but certainly better than nothing. Those who indicated that they had no home device available have been contacted and offered a loan.

### **Nursery**

Our nursery remains open as it would usually. We will continue to put remote learning on the website, should individual children be isolating.

### **Reading Books**

It is not possible to offer a reading book exchange as of yet. Introducing more people into the school, during the pandemic lockdown, goes against the principles of limiting contact between people. Lichfield library is open, offering a click and collect service, details have been provided and are accessed on the school website in the Remote Learning Introduction.

As the weeks pass we will become more familiar with remote learning and the technology. We will all have found our rhythm and groove. We are all doing a brilliant job at making sure our children and families are safe, well and happy.

Best wishes,

Mrs Grainger