

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Good afternoon Parents and Carers,

We all really hope you are well and beginning to sort out how this new lockdown will work for your family. We have been busy in school, readjusting to the 5<sup>th</sup> version of school in less than one year!!

### **Remote Learning**

Ensuring your child continues with their education is a key priority for lockdown. Last time, the guidance was that home-learning wasn't statutory – this time is it. **Schools need to provide remote learning and parents need to ensure their child completes it.** Last year, we were very pleased with the level of engagement from most children – this year, we really want to see every child trying their best to have a go at all activities.

We are offering a **blended approach**, which includes video conferencing, pre-recorded sessions, online work, a variety of other online platforms and tasks to be completed with a pen and paper! Please read the [remote learning policy](#) to understand our offer in more detail. This week's work had been posted prior to last night's announcements – you will notice more Polehampton staff in recorded lessons from next week.

Wherever possible, we would like children to share their work with us online. This will enable us to give feedback, to monitor and support their learning. If children only complete work on paper, it's harder for us to assess their understanding. We will add in further information about how best to do this in the coming days and weeks.

We will be putting out exercise books if you require more paper on dry days.

When using **our learning platforms**, here are some gentle reminders to help keep you safe and happy during your time online:

- Only post relevant comments or questions relating to the task or learning given
- Write positive messages only
- Avoid talking about coronavirus and the pandemic
- Use appropriate language and grammar - no text talk
- Avoid sharing of personal information
- Do not upload photos that include you or family members (unless requested by a teacher)
- Limit learning session time on devices (maximum of 1 hour in a session with short breaks every 20 minutes)
- No commenting or posting on Classroom **before 8am** and **after 3.15pm**
- No spamming (e.g. sending the same message over again to multiple users)
- No unkind comments towards others

If you break of the rules, this will result in you being 'muted' for one week. You will still be able to access your work and see new tasks, but you won't be able to make any comments. Your parents will also be informed of your behaviour. Remember, use the Internet safely - Be Internet Legends!

### **Zoom Sessions**

Due to the teachers being on a rota for children in school, we will have different times for the Zoom check ins. These will be coming home to you from your child's class teacher. We look forward to seeing our children very soon – remember the rules, children!!

### **Parent Emails**

As with the previous lockdown, we are receiving a larger than normal number of emails from parents. What we will try to do is answer “frequently asked questions” in our parent newsletters so apologies if you don’t receive a personal response. With more specific questions, we will get back to you, but please bear with us if it isn’t as prompt as usual.

### **Critical worker/Vulnerable Children Groups**

We are now already at the limit for some year groups and nearly at the limit for others, so we have closed the online Form. If there are any outstanding requests, please email in and we will see if we can help. For parents who have already completed the form - we would ask that, where there is someone at home who can supervise your child, you consider if you really need this space at all or could you manage less days than you have requested? We might have to prioritise families, for example, families where two parents are critical workers, single parent critical workers or frontline emergency services if we have further urgent requests coming in.

Children will be expected to be in school for their normal hours. We are not able to offer more than this for this lockdown as teachers have much greater responsibilities with regards to provide remote learning for all children.

If you require Breakfast or After School Club provision, please contact Stephanie as soon as possible, so she can make plans.

We will be running year group bubbles. Children will see their regular staff, with sessions covered by teachers and/or teaching assistants. Please enter the building via

- Blue Class - Bluebells
- Yr1 – Green Class
- Yr2 – Purple Class
- Yr3 – Yr3 doors
- Yr4 – yr4 doors
- Yr5 – Yr5 doors
- Yr6 – Yr6 doors

Children must wear their normal school uniform. Please note - fruit, vegetable and milk deliveries have been automatically stopped by the companies at the moment, so please send in healthy snacks for playtimes.

We look forward to seeing everyone on Zooms and seeing your work start showing up online very soon!!

best wishes

Miss Ball, Mrs Scott, Mrs Medcalf and Mrs Castell