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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this finds you and your loved ones safe and well.

Last night's announcement of lockdown and school closure is concerning for so many of us. As a school we want nothing more than to welcome our community through our door, to provide learning for our children and to care for their needs.

As you know, we can only accept the children of Critical Workers who have no alternative childcare and vulnerable children through our doors at the moment. Whilst we can only welcome small numbers of children onto site in the coming weeks, we hope that you will feel the thought, care and concern that we continue to extend to all of our pupils and families through our communications and interactions.

Today, our staff team have spent time planning a programme of live and remote learning for our children to undertake. This will be presented in the form of a weekly timetable. We know that the struggles of juggling family life, working from home, supporting children of different ages means that not all of the work that we provide may be completed. We would encourage children to do as much as they can as well as they can without it become stressful. Please let us know if you need any guidance or support, we are here to help.

We have tried to offer a range of types of work in a range of forms. This features some live learning and some online learning platforms. We are acutely aware of minimising the amount of time that we ask children to spend in front of a screen, so have also added 'Topic' work, creative tasks and tasks that encourage reflection and promote wellbeing. Next week, each class will have an allocated story time where they can join their teacher sharing a story with them.

We hope that you will find the range of work and variety of presentation appropriate. We value your feedback so please do let us know any thoughts that you may have.

Each week, the class timetable of work will be uploaded to Class Dojo on a Monday morning. Completed work should be photographed and uploaded through this platform so that teachers can provide guidance and feedback. Teachers will contact you each week to check in that learning is going well, that you and your family are ok and to 'touch base' with your child. We believe that all of our children should have regular contact with their teachers during this period of school closure. We want them to know that our care continues even when we can't see them in person!

We are providing an exercise book for the children to complete their work in. These will be placed in class boxes next to the main gate. Sadly, we are unable to deliver them to you. If you are able to collect them this week we would be grateful.



We will, try to keep printed resources to a minimum, if you need paper copies of resources to be provided, please let your class teacher know through Class Dojo. These will need to be collected from school.

During our school closure, we are providing learning through online platforms that we know to be safe. We would however encourage you to monitor the amount of time your child spends online outside of learning and to check the appropriateness (age and content) of the sites that they access.

Please take time to talk to them about what to do if they are uncomfortable about anything that they see or hear online.

In our weekly timetables of work for pupils, we are ensuring a balance of online learning with tasks and activities that ensure that pupils get active, go outside and have time to reflect on their emotional and mental health. Please ensure that you spend time on these tasks with your children too.

Following last academic year's lockdown, we noticed the impact of absence from school on some of our children's learning. Reading is central to this. Please ensure that your child continues to read to you, with you and that you read to them. Talk about books, explore words and enjoy reading. We cannot emphasise enough how important maintaining reading pace, stamina and enjoyment is!

As you know we are making provision for the children of Critical workers who need to access school care to enable them to undertake critical work. If you would like to be considered for a Critical Worker place, please contact the school office and ask for a registration pack, your request will then be considered. We do ask that if you are able to safely keep your children at home, that you continue to do so.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any worries or concerns or need support. We are here to help and our care for your children continues during this time.

Please do take care and tell your children that we are thinking of them and look forward to seeing them again very soon.

Kind regards

Sally Beaton

Headteacher

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