



19 January 2021

## Weekly letter

Dear parents and carers

We began this lockdown more prepared than we were for the last one in March and were able to get remote learning up and running more speedily. However, it still may be that things are more difficult for children and families this time around. Made worse by the dark and cold time of year, this lockdown comes after a 10 month period of restrictions, isolation and concerns about each other's safety. For this lockdown, expectations are higher of schools and children and this also adds pressure to families.

We have a number of staff who can help with any technical difficulties you have with online learning. In addition to this, Miss Awan, our learning mentor, is available to help if you are concerned about your child's wellbeing and Mr Finch, our family worker, is here to help families with any issues they are facing.

### Remote learning

We continue to develop 'live lessons' where children can see their teacher explaining the work. As they get to see their classmates, we hope that this helps them feel connected and is good for their wellbeing as well as their learning. Thank you for your patience and support as we all become more familiar with this way of working. (You can email technical queries to [classroom-help@someriesjuniorschool.co.uk](mailto:classroom-help@someriesjuniorschool.co.uk)).

If your child does not have access to a device for remote learning – or is hampered by having to share a device – it may be that we are able to help with the loan of one of our small number of laptops. Please contact Mr Finch via the school office if we can help you in this way.

### Learning on-site

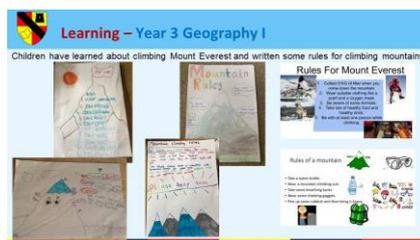
Regrettably, we have had to close our school kitchen as it was no longer viable to keep it open with such small numbers. Instead, children are now bringing a packed lunch every day. Families whose children are entitled to Free School Meals will soon receive weekly vouchers instead of school meals. (For the first two weeks of lockdown our caterers, Caterlink, provided food parcels.)

Families of children who are attending school can get regular rapid COVID tests at local centres (Farley Community Centre, Lewsey Community Centre and the Central Library) 7 days a week, 8am-8pm. This is useful in identifying anyone who might be carrying the COVID virus but does not have symptoms, before they come into school.

### Celebration Assembly – Lockdown Learning

Last Friday, we had our first Celebration Assembly slides of work that children have produced at home. This is, of course, only a tiny fraction of the work they have been doing but it is good to be able to showcase some of their work.

You can access the slideshow by clicking this link: [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1NhaMVa\\_Ct-D2KKvGf3dkehmwuxl6W2-88kgfFUAOOA8/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1NhaMVa_Ct-D2KKvGf3dkehmwuxl6W2-88kgfFUAOOA8/edit?usp=sharing)



Thank you for helping your child to try their best with remote learning.

Yours sincerely

Mr Hunt