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Believe in ourselves, be the best we can be

Newsletter- 22.1.21

Remote Learning

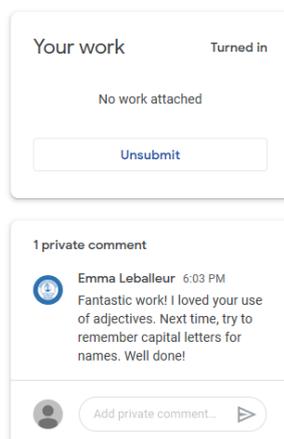
We are now three weeks into this lockdown and as a staff we have spoken to lots of you about our Remote Learning and had feedback via the various platforms. I firstly wanted to thank you for all of your support in engaging in the activities that the teachers have been setting. They have really enjoyed seeing the outcomes and progress in their learning and have been able to give frequent feedback to celebrate what they are seeing and suggest ideas for moving the learning forwards or areas to develop.

I also wanted to recognise the fact that this is a very different situation to the lockdown that started in March. Last year we were asked to provide 'childcare' as a school and our Remote Learning had a more relaxed feel. We have been asked by the government to increase and improve our offer and I know that this has impacted on some of your experiences at home.

Please continue to communicate with us about your experiences and challenges. Your feedback will support us in shaping our provision moving forward. If you have enjoyed an activity or one style of delivery worked well for you and your child then let us know. Please also let us know if your family are facing any particular challenges. We will always listen, make any adjustments if possible and support where we can.

Are you seeing teachers' feedback? On Google Classroom, any feedback from teachers can be viewed by revisiting the assignment later in the day or the next day. We are unsure if this is always being seen by children and families - we know that some devices show notifications when comments are made by teachers and some do not. To help us know if your child is seeing their feedback, please ask them to reply with an emoji or short comment in the 'add private comment' box. Thank you!

We will soon be sending out a survey to give you another platform to give us your feedback. We hope that this will give us a chance to celebrate what is going well and also refine and further develop our Remote Learning arrangements moving forward.



Change of Term Dates

As a result of this lockdown, it would be very challenging for teachers to write accurate and informed annual reports in the spring term. For one year only, we have decided to change our arrangements so that the reports will be written and sent home in the summer term. As a result, we have changed the non-pupil day planned for **Monday 22nd February** and this will now be a 'normal' school day. The non-pupil day will now be on **Monday June 7th**. We apologise for any inconvenience that this may have caused.

Lateral Flow Testing

We wanted to inform you that all adults working on the School and Preschool sites will start Lateral Flow Testing from the week beginning the 25th January. These are designed to detect anyone that is asymptomatic and therefore unaware that they may have Coronavirus. Staff will take two tests a week and we will be closely monitoring the results and taking the appropriate action should we have any positive results. I think you will agree that this is an extremely positive step for us as Critical Workers in ensuring an even higher level of safety for our pupils, staff and their families.

Pupil Voice

As I mentioned before, we get some great feedback from our pupils about their learning and we wanted to share some with you.

***'I really like how we can just type the answers straight onto Google Docs.'* Indie Y3**

***'I believe the wolf's story because I don't think a wolf could eat a whole person or would like to wear a dress!'* Siena P Y3**

***'I really enjoy being able to use the laptops for our learning. I have got so good at Times Tables Rock Stars!'*- Stanley- Y2**

***'I have learnt so many new things in the phonics videos. The 'c' grapheme can make the phoneme 's' too like in mice.'* Rory Y1**

***'We have heard so many fairy tales in our English. The slides on the laptop include so many stories and videos. It was really fun hearing Miss Bruen on the computer reading Jack and the Beanstalk.'* Ava Y2**

***'We have done lots of art. We have used lots of bright colours. It has made me feel calm!'* Paige Y1**

***'I have enjoyed learning new things about new artists. I have learnt how to make porridge! I made it at home!'* Cade Y2**

We really do miss seeing you all every day! Take care and thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,



**Dave Killoran
(Headteacher)**