

ENGAGEMENT ENJOYMENT ENTHUSIASM = EXCELLENCE.

Headteacher: Mrs. Wendy D'Arcy



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**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

Dear Parent/Carers,

I hope that you are all safe and well and have enjoyed the half term break. I'm sure you agree, it has been a very much needed rest, away from the screen and a good opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, despite the poor weather!

As you know, I am waiting to hear how and when the Prime Minister intends for children to return to school and should have a clearer idea on Monday, once he has shared the 'Road Map' with the nation. This means, that the school will continue with the blended approach to learning, with critical worker and vulnerable children in school and the rest of our children, learning remotely from home.

As a team, we do understand how difficult it is to keep the children motivated and engaged at home - we are very proud of the children and the amazing levels of resilience they have demonstrated since January. However, we recognise that remote learning for some, became increasingly difficult towards the end of last term. Research on remote education, although limited, emphasizes the importance of routine and structure- 'live' teaching should support with this.

In order to start this new term in the right way, it is important to have clear expectations which will hopefully provide a sense of motivation, enthusiasm and routine! Below are some helpful hints!

- Ensure that your child/ren have had their breakfast prior to the start of the 'live teaching' rather than allowing them to eat during the teaching session – this can be a distraction for both the teacher and other children in the group.
- To support your child/ren feel as though they are in 'school mode', they could wear their school/PE jumper when online.
- Please build 'snack time' into the morning routine.
- Please ensure that your child/ren have a clear space to 'work' at, as well as resources such as a pencil, rubber, ruler etc. If you need resources, then please contact school.

The year group timetable on the school [website](#) should hopefully support you in creating a structure for your day. It might be useful, especially for the younger children, to have their activities written out for them on a daily basis, so that they know what to expect.

I know that this pandemic is impacting on our school families in different ways and the financial pressures for some are very challenging. Please do be assured that we are here to help and can signpost/access a

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*Love your neighbour as yourself.  
We care, learn and achieve... together.*

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broad range of useful agencies who have supported many of our families so far. Please do not struggle in silence-contact us!

As always, thank you for your continued support. Once I have further information regarding the full return to school, I will be in touch.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wendy D'Arcy", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Wendy D'Arcy  
Headteacher

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