

Dear Parents & Carers.

28.01.2020

I hope everyone is doing the best they can during lockdown 3. The good news is that there is light at the end of the tunnel and that, I believe, the vaccines are certainly our way back to normality!

I hope you are happy with our remote learning offer which comes in a variety of forms including printed work packs, assignments for children to complete in their own time, Oak National Academy daily lessons, pre-recorded lessons or live lessons to name a few.

We are offering mostly live lessons in the morning, partly because we are a junior school and have older children but also to help take some of the pressure off you. It does take a lot of preparation from my staff but they are offering, I feel, a great service and I do thank them for that. It is not easy to juggle a live remote lesson whilst at the same time teaching a number of children in the class in some cases. I take my hat off to my staff! It is obviously not as effective as face to face teaching in schools, but it is the best we can offer.

Thanks so much to the many of you who have contacted the school sharing your thanks and support. It really does 'lift' the staff! ☺

I also take my hat off to you all! Parents & Carers, you are amazing and I really appreciate you doing your best. It is not easy for anyone. Many of you are also working from home whilst at the same time trying to ensure your children remote in, do the work as well as doing your own work. Just do your best. Remember, we have an amazing pastoral team who can also offer advice if needed. The children who are in school are great and have just adapted and are getting on with it.

For safeguarding reasons, just a reminder to please remember to think carefully where you position your child in the house when the camera is on. Also, please remind your child to use the chat function sensibly and to mute when not talking. This is really important.

Staff who are working in schools will be taking a lateral flow test twice a week. This test gives staff a result at 30 minutes. The test is also used to identify any staff who may be positive but do not show any symptoms. Please be aware that this may impact on further closures of in-school bubbles. This will not be rolled out to primary children as per government guidance.

We also make use of [Oak National Academy](https://www.oaknationalacademy.com/), when needed, to give us time to make alternative plans due to staff shortages. It is a fantastic resource but is only used as a temporary measure.

Finally, we do still have a number **laptops to loan** if you are struggling to access the remote offer. Do contact the school should you require one. We have loaned out a lot which is thanks to the Trust & the government for giving them to us.

Take care & stay safe.

Mr Rob Jones



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