

Friday 8th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to write to you again following the letter sent earlier this week regarding our remote learning offer.

As you know, we have developed our remote learning offer for this lockdown, and I hope that your children are enjoying the videos from their teachers and are engaged with the learning activities. Our aim is to attempt to build on the sense of connection between school and home and to reduce the risk of the children losing what they have learnt in the autumn term.

However, here are a few things to bear in mind:

- 1) The first and most important outcome of this situation is that we all cope (physically and mentally) during the current lockdown restrictions.
- 2) Most of the children caught up most of their missed learning last term - so we can (and will) catch them up again.
- 3) There is more to child development than academic attainment and improving knowledge.

These statements are not an excuse for us all to not try to help children continue their learning over lockdown, or allowing the children to do no learning during the next six or more weeks. However, we need to strike a balance for us all.

The remote learning is there to support you and your children to learn at home whilst we get this virus under control, so if you can't do all of the activities set - do not stress! If you need the children to engage in BBC lessons for a day or so, or work on learning platforms such as spelling frame or you all need to go for a walk during the day then that is okay. What works for you, might not work for other families - do what you think is best.

When we are all back together again physically, we will work with your children and help them catch up again. Educationally, we will together make it okay in the end.

I would however recommend, as a minimum, that your children read everyday with you, do some writing, and some maths. Regular exercise would also be recommended. Please do not just let them play for six weeks. It is important to reinforce last term's learning but as I said earlier - this is about balance and coping!

I thank you for your support - the feedback we have received has been very positive but we would also like to hear from parents if they require any more support/resources with the home learning. In the next few days, the teachers will be communicating with you further on how they can maximise feedback opportunities to your children.

We are all learning and adapting at the moment and like us, I know you deeply care about your child's development and will be trying your best.

Take care,

Mr Barron