

Friday 15th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is now the end of the second week of school closure for the large majority of children. I do hope that you are all well. The staff and I have really appreciated the positive messages regarding the remote learning – it is fantastic to see the pictures, videos and feedback from the children. The teachers are trying their very best to provide learning opportunities that are engaging and purposeful. As the weeks progress, we hope to increase the variety of lessons and initiatives to further motivate and stimulate the pupils.

In addition to the remote learning activities which can be found on the home learning section of our website, we have relaunched the following initiatives: The first being, the 'Golden Ticket' competition, where pupils can now enter from home!

When pupils have read at home five times in a week, simply send a photo of the completed page in their planner to golden.tickets@gadevalley.herts.sch.uk

Please add their name and year group in the subject line. Their golden ticket will go into the weekly prize draw and, if they win, a special Wonka bar will be posted/delivered to them!

<https://www.gadevalley.herts.sch.uk/golden-tickets-1>

The second being, the Times Table Rock Star game – Battle of the Bands!

This is where children (Year 2 - 6) can have inter class battles. Each battle will commence at 9am on Monday morning and finish at 12pm on Friday. The children should spend at least 10-15 mins a day helping their class to win the battle.

<https://www.gadevalley.herts.sch.uk/tt-rockstars-3>

In trying to further connect with our school community, we have an Instagram, twitter and facebook account – please search for Gade Valley Primary School on any of these platforms. Furthermore, I hope that your children are enjoying the briefings/assemblies – just a reminder that these will be posted on the website.

<https://www.gadevalley.herts.sch.uk/mr-barrons-briefings>

If you do need any support with the home learning, including support with accessing a laptop/tablet – please contact your class teacher. I am incredibly grateful for the fantastic support that we have had within our community, this includes all the positive comments, donations of resources such as hand gels and laptops...and the donuts!

I would also like to thank all the frontline critical workers for everything that they are doing and the risks that they are putting themselves and families in. This includes my staff who are still coming in to school to provide critical childcare.

Take care,

Mr Barron