

Parent Letter 22/01/21

We are now half way through the half term and whilst things have been stable in school we are being continually challenged by the raft of government policy changes. After last week's debacle of the free school meals, we are now having to introduce testing for all staff from 25th January. Whilst this may possibly be an effective way of reducing transmission, the likelihood is that it will have a significant impact upon the organisation of the school. This means it is imperative that the communication remains good, as it is likely that there will be short notice messages about classes and teachers having to self isolate. There is no easy way through this so I am just preparing you for this scenario in advance.

Things are working smoothly in school so the current arrangements will stay in place but as always we will keep them under review to ensure the best for the children. Numbers continue to be manageable in school but we do still need to be stringent on only identified vulnerable pupils and children of key workers attending to keep our numbers within safe guidelines. Please let us know by e-mail if your circumstances change as it helps our planning.

As you will know, the Remote Learning process is under constant review and we are always looking for opportunities to augment our provision. We have introduced the videos this week and will continuing to build our provision. Thank you for all the positive messages we have received – it means a lot. As we have said, the use of class dojo is critical so please ensure you use this regularly. All teachers are currently teaching in school but are also available via the dojo to answer any questions within the working day. Don't forget we are also able to provide paper packs for collection or delivery if you are unable to leave the house.

Please do keep in mind that home learning is a real challenge – don't be disheartened if it seems impossible – I know from personal experience it can seem like that! Teaching is a professional skill so just aim to do your best, we are here to support you not judge you. We have tried to minimise the stress but there is no easy way to do this. As with the last lockdown, on full return we will plan our curriculum to ensure the appropriate gaps are plugged to continue to build on your child's development.

We pride ourselves on being approachable and are always ready and willing to respond to your requests – please keep being nice and it will all work out fine!

Stay safe everybody.

Dr Jones