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Headteacher: Mrs J Narraway

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Dear parent/carer,

Well, we are now on Day Four of our remote learning contingency plan and we are delighted to see so many children logging in to the virtual register – it is great to see their smiling faces! We are working hard to support those who found it tricky and hopefully they can join us tomorrow. I am sure you are with me in congratulating Miss Igglesden on making this situation the best it can be under the circumstances.

As you know, we are committed to working in partnership with our parents and used the parental questionnaire to guide us in the development of our contingency plan but, as with all things new, there are bound to be teething problems and areas to improve.

Following the duration of the remote learning, we will be asking you to complete a feedback survey to enable us to improve the remote learning package should any other class have to isolate, and importantly celebrate what has been successful. In the meantime, we are able to respond to some issues/comments made by parents over the last few days.

I need to pick my other children up from school or nursery at the end of the day

We realised on Monday that some children were not able to access the story at the close of the school day because they were picking up siblings from school or nursery. As a result of this, we have moved the timing to 3:30pm. Any later, and this would stretch the day beyond the designated teaching time the children would have.

I am working from home so can I do the work at a different time and upload at the end of the day?

We fully appreciate that some parents will be working from home and helping your child with their learning will be challenging.

The directive from the Department of Education is that we must aim to continue the quality of learning when working remotely with a sequence of lessons that feed on from each other. Our aim is that on Tuesday 10th November, the children will return and the next lesson will be delivered as if they'd been in school the whole time. In order to achieve this, the teacher will be marking English and Maths work and then planning the next day's lesson based on how the children have done. This is how we work in



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school. Ideally, we need Maths and English to be uploaded by the end of the school day so it can be marked and then the teacher can prepare the next day's lessons based on how the children have done. The afternoon session's learning can be uploaded later as it is unlikely that the next lesson will be the next day.

As well as the parents' wellbeing, we need to consider the wellbeing of the class teacher who has been online from 9:20am until 3:40pm, available to the children throughout the day and then will be planning in the evening for the next day. Therefore, please can you consider the timing of any work uploaded later in the day and aim for it to be no later than 6:30pm.

We have also been made aware that some parents had virtual meetings booked and the guided reading sessions made it difficult for these to go ahead. You will have seen that a timetable has been uploaded to help you see the times things are planned for. Thank you for bringing this to our attention as it is important that we are able to accommodate those who are working from home whilst the children are isolating.

If you are a shift worker please look after yourselves. We fully understand that you will need to sleep in order to function and do your job. There is flexibility in these cases and we are more than happy to agree a way round the challenges shift work and home schooling can bring. Please feel free to contact the school office via email and they will send it onto me.

Can we have the work uploaded earlier to enable us to print off?

Firstly, there is no expectation to print the materials off. You can just record the answers in your child's book, photograph the image and upload. Alternatively, you can use Google docs to edit the worksheet and this will be fine also. If you are having any technical issues, please contact the school office and they will support you.

After some reflection, we are more than happy to upload the materials for 8am each morning to give you time to print them off before the lesson if you wish to as we appreciate your working day may be earlier than the school day. We are not able to upload in the evening as the teacher will need this time to prepare lessons as well as have some time to themselves.

I am linked into all the classes so I receive the messages as well as the teachers. I hope that I have answered any concerns/issues you have had but should you be experiencing any additional problems, please feel free to let me know.

The most important message we can give is, 'you can only do your best' and that is all we ask. We are ever so grateful to you as parents for your understanding and support during this time, and of course the children for their continued resilience and positivity.

With kindest regards,

Mrs Jayne Narraway

Head Teacher

