

## Learning Together, Successful Forever

Dear Parents/carers,

I would like to start by saying thank you for all your support during this half term. I know the past 6 weeks have been challenging, whether you have been going out to work, or working from home, feeling anxious about having to send your child into school, or taking on the role of teacher at home. It has been a juggling act for us all, but once again you have supported your children in order to ensure they have continued their learning and most importantly remained safe.

Currently, we are still waiting for government guidance regarding school's full reopening. We have been promised that this will be shared with ample notice so we can communicate plans to parents/carers ahead of a possible return date in March. Hopefully we will hear about this soon!

Over the half term period school will be closed to all pupils. During this period of time we are still required to carry out track and trace. Please read the separate letter that was sent out yesterday detailing how you can inform us and the information we will require.

Below, are some of the things we will be putting in to place after half term in order to develop our remote learning offer further. Again, thank you to everyone who completed the parent/carer survey with valuable suggestions and feedback about what they felt was working well.

**Physical exercise** – With the cold weather and so many parents working from home we appreciate how difficult it is to get outdoors and engage in physical exercise during this time. We know many of the children are still participating in zoom classes, such as dance and karate, but we want to try and get children active for a little time each day as our survey results indicated engagement in the recommended amount of physical activity is currently very low.

After half term, Mr Webb, one of our sports coaches, will be sharing a daily activity for the children to participate in. 'Mr Webb's wellbeing work out' will be a live meet that will take place each day. For **EYFS and KS1 this will take place at 1pm**, and for **KS2 this will take place at 1.30pm**. We will encourage children to build on their own personal fitness scores each day and see if they can 'beat the teacher!'

**Live sessions** - Many parents reported that their child has enjoyed the opportunity to join a 'live meet' with their teacher, a few parents also expressed an interest in live lessons. As a school, we won't be moving to live lessons due to feedback indicating that a percentage of families are needing to share devices and like to pause recorded sessions or play/return to videos at a convenient time dependent on their families' circumstances. Therefore, we have decided to increase opportunities to have 'live meets' by introducing the following;

- Increasing morning meets with the class teacher to three times and week (*these will be on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday for **all** pupils, we recognise that your child may not be able to make every meet due to shared devices, don't worry, please join us when you can. These will replace telephone conversations*);
- We will hold a weekly whole school assembly;
- Introduce daily workouts (*as mentioned above*)
- Hold a weekly live spelling quiz for key stage 2 pupils (*details to follow via google classrooms*).

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We hope that this will further support pupil engagement and provide a sense of community and belonging.

**Maths** – In addition to white rose maths, class teachers will be supplementing these materials by posting teacher led starters each day. This will also provide an opportunity to feedback any misconceptions, model new concepts and prompt children to use practical equipment to aid their learning.

**Support for pupils and families** – within each google classroom you will find a ‘supporting materials’ section. Our pupil planners have a wealth of material that the children can refer to, but this folder also contains resources such as vocab mats, number lines, 100 squares or word lists. We have also produced help guides for parents with links to lots of useful websites on a number of different areas related to SEND and mental health and wellbeing, please follow this [link](#) to view.

**Screen time** - We have reviewed the amount of screen time we are asking children to engage in each day. We feel that we are providing an appropriate amount in order to model concepts and ensure we are delivering the required curriculum, whilst also providing opportunity for independent learning and time away from the screen. We ask that parents help to remind children to have screen breaks and discourage screen time at least an hour before bed time. Please follow this [link](#) for tips and advice.

**Supporting the session** - A few parents have said it would be useful to have a photo of the teachers modelled writing at the end of each English session. We will upload this as a picture at the same time English videos are posted. As a staff we have also discussed reducing the amount of links where possible. We understand that these may appear overwhelming when they are first opened but the resources are there to support your child, not all children will need everything but we feel that it is important to make available to all.

We will also continue to implement all of the things that you have commented upon so positively, such as, our videos recorded by staff, the use of assignments to return work, our live meets, feedback to pupils, celebration of work via shout outs within lessons, postcards home and weekly quizzes. I know you have valued the delivery commenting on staff being upbeat, informative, engaging and demonstrating excellent practise. We were also particularly pleased to know that 100% of parents felt that we had shared our remote learning offer effectively, 86% of parents felt that the support we were providing for their child was good or better and 100% felt that the materials we provide has helped to ensure that you know how to keep your children safe online.

It was lovely to see so many of your children join us for our internet safety day on Tuesday and receive feedback later that day about the types of activities the children had explored as a result. Thank you to all the parents who have also signed up to the National Online Safety programme, we hope that you find the materials useful when supporting your child at home.

Don't forget that we are always here to help if there are any changes in personal circumstances you need to share with us or if you need signposting to specialist services whilst your child is not in school. Here is a [link](#) to a variety of books around themes that might help to support more challenging topics or feelings and open up a dialogue with your child.

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We have put together some local family trails that you might want to do together over the next week. Please see the separate parent mail with maps and links attached. Please also see the post on our website sharing some of the wonderful photos that were sent in to school on the theme 'express yourself' following last week's mental health week.

I hope that you all have a lovely half term with your children. Take care everyone, I look forward to seeing you all very soon.

Kind regards  
Mrs Turner