

17th January 2021

As we reach the end of the second week of this lockdown I am really pleased with the level of engagement and the work being produced by the children. We fully understand that two weeks into another new pattern of learning can be tough, but we really appreciate the efforts being made by all families to support the children's learning and hopefully you have all managed to establish a daily routine that suits your family.

Over the past week we have also been able to provide iPads to younger pupils that were sharing with older siblings or using a parent's phone to access learning. We hope that we have managed to speak to or contact anyone who is struggling with access to devices or Wi-Fi but we cannot help if we are not informed that you need help.

Curriculum

The teachers are working hard to incorporate as much of the curriculum as they can into their plans for the week and we understand that you and your children have full days just trying to get through the work planned but it would be great to see what other interest and achievements your children have during this time, be it baking, painting, building, creating models, running a particular distance etc. Please share these achievements with us as they are all part of your children's learning and worthy of sharing and celebrating with us and our school community.

Daily registration

Just a reminder that daily registration marks the start of the school day and it is very important that all children start the day in the correct manner. As school is mandatory, being absent from registration is an absence from school. Being late or missing sessions online is the same as being absent from school.

If your child is going to absent from lessons please remember to contact the school office in the usual way, in order to inform the school. All messages will be relayed to class teachers on the day.

Free school Meals

Many of you will be aware of the issues that emerged last week about the quality of the hampers distributed families on Free School Meals week before last. There are various ways in which hampers could be provided and ours were supplied by our catering company Caterlink. Whilst we did not receive any complaints about the hampers that they provided, Caterlink has acknowledged that they need to increase the quantity of food that goes into their hampers and this they will be doing when hampers are distributed next week.

Of course families would prefer that they were provided with vouchers however the government scheme, through Edenred, is still not in place and so we are hopeful that after next week, we will be able to inform parents as to when the switch to vouchers will take place. In the meantime the office will be in touch with families to inform them as to when to collect the next round of hampers.

Mental Health and Well-being tip of the week

Week 9 - Build exercise into your weekly routine

When we're so busy, it can be difficult to prioritise exercise, but just 10 minutes of exercise a day releases endorphins; which create positive feelings in our bodies. Regular exercise reduces stress, anxiety and low mood, increases self-esteem and improves sleep. Look at your routine this week and think about when you can spare 10 minutes to do some exercise. Jogging, step-ups on the stairs, bicep curls with tins or going for walks are just some examples. You can even get creative with it and see how many sit-ups you can do while the kettle boils! To keep you motivated, you could keep a fitness diary and include how you felt before and after the exercise.

Wishing you all a safe and healthy week ahead.

Let's keep each other safe!

HANDS



FACE



SPACE



three simple words that mean so much.