



Coleham Primary School

For every child, an Excellent Education

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Headteacher: Ms C Jones

Deputy Headteacher: Mr T Larkham

Friday 29th January

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that this email finds you all safe and well. After another week of remote learning and lockdown restrictions, I continue to be so impressed with the positivity and efforts shown by all members of our school community – staff, pupils and parents. The children in school and at home continue to work really hard and keep smiling.

I am sure you heard the news this week regarding schools remaining closed to most pupils until at least March 8th. This is not the news we had hoped for as, like you, we are really keen for all children to return to school as soon as possible. However, hopefully by March 8th, the infection rate will be lower and it will be possible to re-open school, once again. During the announcement, we were assured that we would be given a 2-week notice of the confirmed date for re-opening. Therefore, we hope to receive this confirmation during half term and we will communicate our plans with you thereafter. Until this point, we will continue teaching the children who are at home remotely, using Seesaw and Tapestry.

Here are a few important updates for those of you with children at home completing remote learning:

Live PE lessons

Next week, Mr Venn will begin delivering an extra 'live' PE lessons to all classes. You will receive a Zoom invitation and we hope that your child will be keen to attend. This will be in addition to the two lesson videos he will post on Seesaw. Physical activity is so important at the moment, so please encourage your child to join in with Mr Venn.

Social chats on Zoom

This week, our class TAs have run social drop-in sessions on Zoom to allow children in Years 1 - 6 to chat to their friends and socialise. The sessions have been very successful and we have had really positive feedback from staff, parents and children. We will continue running these next week, so please look out for your Zoom invitation, which will come to you via Seesaw.

Zoom sessions for EYFS

We have not forgotten about EYFS and they have also begun live Zoom sessions twice each week. We know that many children engaged in these sessions this week and the feedback has been really positive. It is so important for the children to maintain contact with their class teachers and class mates and we think that these short sessions will really help our youngest children to do that.

Remote rewards

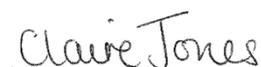
We are so proud of the work being produced by the children at home. We are therefore going to start awarding Star of the Week certificates to remote learners in each class. This will be announced in Friday morning's Zoom meeting each week. We are also going to ask teachers to award Head Teacher Awards (HTAs) to children who work really hard, produce excellent work and put in lots of effort. These will be given out by teachers when they are marking work on Seesaw. When a child receives 5 of these awards, they will receive a certificate from me through the post. We hope that these awards will help the children at home to still feel part of our school community and motivate them to keep working hard and trying their best.

It is fair to say that the children who are still attending school are also doing a marvellous job and must not be forgotten. We continue to work hard to ensure that all of our children, whether they are at home or school, have access to the same learning. As ever, if your child is struggling (or if you are), let us know. We are here to help. Please remember not to put pressure on yourselves, just do as much as you can. We are obliged (by law) to set a lot of work each day, but we fully appreciate that many of you are trying to work at home and educate your children – it is incredibly stressful. Therefore, there is **no pressure from us** to complete everything. I have also attached the poster from Mr Larkham which has some really useful advice about how to approach the challenges of remote learning, including being kind to yourself and not feeling under pressure to complete everything. Please give it a read. All we ask is that all children attend the Zoom daily call if possible please and do some work each day so we can keep in touch. If your child is able to complete all of the work, that is great but, if not, don't worry! Remember that you are all doing a fantastic job!

Thank you so much to those parents who have sent parcels from our School Amazon Wish List-it really is appreciated and so very kind of you. If you have left a gift note, then Mrs Jasper will be in touch to thank you.

I hope that you all have a lovely, Seesaw/Tapestry free weekend! Mr Larkham and I are looking forward to joining more Zoom meetings next week so that we can see more children from our desks.

Yours sincerely,



Claire Jones
Headteacher