

5th February 2021

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Executive Principal: Miss JK Tomlinson

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have 4 days left of this remote learning half term and I have everything crossed that we will be able to fully reopen school on the 8th March and I am sure that you all feel the same. I know that I have said this before but please be assured that we do understand how difficult it is for you to do the learning at home but we are here to support you in the best way that we can. Unfortunately, we don't get to hear of the plans of the government any earlier than you do but at least this time we have been told that we will get two week's notice!

Mental Health Week

I hope the home learners have been able to enjoy the mental health week activities and that you were all able to wear something inside out on Wednesday. On Tuesday next week it is safer internet day and I think now more than ever that this is something we need to mark and ensure that children know how to keep themselves safe online.

Remote Learning Survey

Thank you to all of you that have completed the survey regarding the remote learning provision, SLT will be delivering a Microsoft Live event next **Wednesday 10th at 5pm** to give you some feedback from this. You will be able to post questions during this event and even if you cannot attend at this time, you will be able to watch it later by using the link provided. We will also send out some information following the event to all parents.

The children's survey and our wellbeing calls have revealed that many of the children are missing the interaction with their friends which they do not get during school closure. As a result, we are going to try and host some short social events using Teams. We have asked for the cameras to be enabled to allow the children to see each other and we will begin trialling these next week. I have attached with this letter some rules for the children and a little guidance note for yourselves. We are going to set up the younger children (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) on Teams so that they can benefit from these too. However, please note the learning will continue for these year groups on Seesaw. We are also planning to do a remote parents evening using Teams and setting up the other year groups in this way will allow us to facilitate this. Watch out for more details after half term.

Half Term

Just a reminder that school will close for half term on **Thursday 11th February** and will reopen for critical worker and vulnerable children on **Monday 22nd February**. The Local Authority Winter Food Grant will be distributing vouchers to those parents who received them at Christmas to cover food during this holiday.

We have all been saddened this week by the passing of Sir Captain Tom and there have been lots of pictures and comments around on social media and in the news - but I thought that I would finish my letter today with a quote from him which he said when completing the 100th lap of his garden in the summer to remind us that we will get through this:

*"The sun **will** shine on you again and the clouds **will** go away".*

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JK Tomlinson', written in a cursive style.

Miss JK Tomlinson
Executive Principal

RE: Social Time Guidance

Dear Parents/Carers,

To support the children's well-being, we want to have some more social events that the children can attend where they can see and socialise with their friends. We have created the following rules that the children must adhere to if they are going to join these meetings.

For safeguarding reasons, the children must

- be fully dressed
- in an appropriate room in the house (not the bathroom)
- keep their device stationary throughout the meeting
- not invite siblings to join in
- be kind and friendly

These rules will be monitored by staff and children will be asked to leave if they do not comply with them. An adult can also be present in the room but do not need to be involved in the meeting.

Children's Social Time Rules

- 1) Click the mute button on your screen and you will be told when you can unmute.
- 2) In the chat section, you can say things to your friends or send funny emojis.
- 3) Your camera will have been enabled so make sure you are dressed and not in your pjs!
- 4) Follow the school rules about being polite and friendly to all.
- 5) Choose a sensible place to join the meeting and make sure your device stays in one place.
- 6) Children in KS1 and FS should have an adult in the same