

Dear Parents and Carers,

It seems hard to believe but we are now in the final week of this half term! If your child is learning at home, please remember to start the week with the Zoom for your child's year group. If your child is in school, they too will join the Zoom and this helps all of the children to remember that they are part of a unique group of friends.

This week, we would like to break the record for 'engagement in learning' levels. We track every child, every day and almost everyone is doing the core tasks set by the teachers. The amount of work coming in every day is truly amazing. Hundreds of maths lessons, stories, handwriting, spelling and other tasks flood onto the platform throughout the day. The core tasks: reading, writing and maths, are so important if we are help the children to keep up with their learning so I would like to ask for your help in making sure that these are completed every day. Remember that we are here to help, so if you have a problem just call the school and we will respond. In most cases, a quick chat with the teacher is all that's needed to get a child up and running with learning.

Why bother uploading the work?

This is a common question and I know that uploading work can take extra time, especially if your child is too young to use the platform independently. The answer is quite straightforward. Teachers and teaching assistants look at every piece of work that is uploaded. They use the information to track your child's progress and they give feedback and encouragement which helps to motivate your child. We listen to the recordings of children reading, we watch the videos of your child doing their PE, and all of the work we see, forms part of your child's assessment portfolio. When your child completes tasks on the reading and times tables platforms, the teachers can see how well your child is coping with the work. If children struggle with the work, the teachers change the follow-up tasks and re-teach the tricky bits. So please, please upload everything your child completes at home!

When will school reopen?

At the moment, we simply don't know. A date in early March is the target at government level but this rests on a number of markers being met. As everything is so uncertain, we must continue to protect the children's education by making sure that every child is accessing the remote learning platforms. Parents of children in the upper juniors will be thinking about secondary schools and the tests that the children take for grammar school places. Whilst we wait for information about the process, the best advice is to keep up with all the tasks set on Seesaw. If your child does the work set and reads widely, they will be well prepared for any tests. If you have any problems with log-ins or you need to borrow equipment, please talk to us also that we can put something in place speedily.

Critical Workers

Thank you for helping us to manage the bubbles safely and for teaching your children at home whenever possible. By keeping your child at home, you are helping to protect the community. Your support is much appreciated.

Keep going!

You are doing an amazing job, helping your child to keep up with their learning whilst the school is closed. Thank you for reading every day, helping with maths, guiding reluctant writers and supporting with coding, cooking, drumming, spelling, PE, RE and much, much more.

Best wishes,

Mrs Galloway