

Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 25th September 2020

We've had a great 4 weeks back at school and so far all is running smoothly. However, as we are all very aware, the infection rate is increasing and more families are having to self-isolate.

We have to anticipate two possible scenarios:

- 1) A family have to self-isolate and so children in the family will miss 10 days of schooling
- 2) One of our bubbles has to close and so the whole bubble have to self-isolate for 14 days (missing 10 days of schooling)

We have therefore considered the best way to support home learning in these two particular situations.

During lockdown we sent out daily work. The intention was to give children a variety of tasks to consolidate their learning. We didn't intend this to fill the day but to give a structure of learning to each day. The feedback we had from you was very positive. You told us that you liked the structure. Receiving daily instructions meant you could plan your day around this. We felt there was a good balance of working on paper along with various online resources.

We've decided to go with this format for the second scenario.

If we were to have to close a bubble we will quickly get the photocopier into action and copy a batch of work for every child. It will be organised in days and give clear instructions and resources for each day. We'll also provide a couple of pencils and a pencil sharpener to help you out. We'd ask that you'd spend time with your child completing these tasks on a daily basis. This will be crucial to support their learning and help to ensure they do not fall behind as they have already had a significant period of time out of school.

We recognise that you may not be able to spend the whole day working with your child and so have not given an excessive amount of work for each day. We hope we've got it just right.

We'd also anticipate that your child's teacher will be in touch with you regularly through the period of isolation to offer advice and encouragement.

Most importantly – we will be asking you to return your child's work at the end of the period of isolation as we'll want to see how they've got on, what they've managed well and what has been clearly more of a struggle. Therefore, please don't be tempted to do the work for them.

We also want to be able to provide work for children if their bubble is still operating but they are having to self-isolate – the first scenario. We've already had some children having to do this and have managed to provide some work but we want to be ready for this in the future.

We have purchased some CGP workbooks, but different ones to the ones we used last year. If your child does have to self-isolate, we'll provide a work pack for them for you to work through with them. You won't receive daily guidance for this and the teacher will probably not have time to contact you personally as they will be working with the class in school but this arrangement will give you materials to ensure your child keeps their brain active and keeps them learning. We'd also like the work returned at the end of the period of self-isolation so the child's teacher can see how they have managed.

It's a lot to ask and we hope that we do not have to use these resources very often but I wanted to let you know that we are preparing for this, just in case.

Finally, as part of the learning from home, we will be expecting children to be able to access some online resources such as Mathletics, Education City, Times Tables Rock Stars, Fiction Express (KS2) and Accelerated Reader (KS2).

I know that some families may not have a tablet or computer for their child/ren to work on. Could you please follow the link below to complete a very short survey so we can have an idea as to who does and doesn't have access to a tablet or computer in the home. If we can support in any way we will do this, but resources are very limited. Please only say you need this support if you have no other alternative.

https://forms.gle/PPhih8tUWKf7E6R67

Thanks in advance for completing the survey. If you could do this by Wednesday 30th September that would be greatly appreciated. It won't take you long.

Let's hope your child does not have to access this remote learning but be assured, we are ready if they do.

Kind regards,

Kay Hemmings Head Teacher

