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Message from the headteacher:

What a start to the Spring term! Following the very last-minute announcement that our school should close when we return after the Christmas break and only be open to keyworker and vulnerable children, the staff have worked tirelessly to prepare for the support of learning both in school as well as for those children who are currently accessing our remote learning offer. Our biggest challenge has been to roll out remote learning which matches the units of work the children are accessing in school. Fortunately we were able to arrange basic training in the use of TEAMS for all our teachers on the first day back and we have no doubt that as the days and weeks go by, you will see ongoing improvements in the delivery of lessons and the support of remote learning. Our Reception teachers have decided to move to TEAMS as well following a week where Tapestry was not able to support the sheer volume of remote access. Mrs Smart has been instrumental in liaising with Reach2 IT and supporting teachers with rolling out the use of TEAMS as a learning platform between ourselves and our families. Please see an update from her regarding remote learning, in particular live session etiquette and expectations below.

At present we have low numbers of pupils accessing in-school learning which has enabled us to create 3 year group bubbles and has allowed for a staff rota which supports pupils in class as well as for teachers to spend time out of class to plan and prepare tasks for children who are at home. This over and above conducting telephonic welfare and wellbeing checks on pupils and families at this time. We have staff who are self isolating and you can imagine that in a fairly new school where we only have 6 teachers and a handful of support staff this has placed additional strain on our capacity to deliver the level of excellence we believe our pupils and parents deserve. But we are determined to do our best and we'd like to thank you for your patience and indeed the kind comments and letters of appreciation you have sent in to school this week.

Have a lovely week-end and take good care of yourselves.

Charmaine Ward



Remote Learning Update from Mrs Smart:

Firstly, I'd like to say well done for completing week one of home learning! You will soon receive a letter which explains how to log on to live lessons via TEAMS next week. The teachers are really looking forward to being able to interact with the children once again. Included in the letter are guidelines on live lesson etiquette. Just as there are rules and guidelines within the classroom that enable a lesson to go smoothly, there need to be guidelines for the virtual classroom. We are learning more about TEAMS everyday (as I'm sure you are) and as we learn new ways to utilise TEAMS and personalise the learning experience we will share these with you. There are lots of articles with advice and explanations on how to use TEAMS, this one is specifically for parents and it may help you if you are struggling with the system:

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-gb/office/distance-learning-with-microsoft-365-guidance-for-parents-and-guardians-89d514f9-bf5e-4374-a731-a75d38ddd588>

Once again, we thank you for your support and kind words.

Next week's menu:



This QR code can be read by any barcode scanner app on your smart phone to access the allergen and nutritional data.



Calendar:

School is currently closed and will only be re-opened to all pupils after a government review in February.

Or visit <http://j.mp/2BzimRC>