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Term 3 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would first like to thank you all for your patience and support over this first week back in the new term. Not the start we would all have liked. I know, I much prefer having the children in school but at the moment the Government's stay home, save lives message is so important for us all.

Home/Remote Learning

Having been checking in with Teams and Dojo regularly this week as well as talking to staff over Teams, I have to say what a great start to home/remote learning. After the initial National Microsoft Teams blip at the start of the week, things seem to be progressing on this platform for the upper school classes and lower stage classes appear to be accessing learning grids through the Blog or Dojo where staff have shared learning grids.

It is also great to see how much sharing of learning is taking place. I know staff are delighted to receive emails containing attachments of work from pupils, some are uploading to channels on Teams and you as parents and carers have been fantastic at supporting and sharing through the portfolio facility on Dojo. Staff will be providing feedback on work however please understand they are doing this for whole classes on different platforms and some staff also have their own children at home and are managing home learning for them too. Staff will be available during the course of the school day to respond to emails and messages but not late in the evening or early mornings.

The authority expectation is that home learning grids/activities are available for pupils to access by 9:30a.m at the latest each day or as appropriate depending on the stage eg Primary or Secondary. As a school, our learning grids will be available by 9a.m on a Monday. Should individual teachers decide to post grids earlier than this then that is their own personal choice. There is certainly no expectation to begin home learning each week before 9:00a.m on the Monday. Some teachers may also be sharing daily challenges with learners through Dojo or Teams.

With this in mind, please think carefully about how you plan your day around home learning and think what best suits your family's needs and circumstances. Chunking learning into manageable time slots may be useful to consider. Please also make sure you build some time in for exercise or to get outdoors at some point in the day as this is so important for wellbeing and mental health in these challenging times.

If anyone has any issues with accessing the learning grids please let us know and we will do everything we can to help. Anyone requiring paper packs please also let us know as soon as possible.

Should your child complete learning grids please consider life skills activities that you can develop with them as well as getting out into the local environment safely. There are also some links in the general home learning page on the Blog that may be of use.

Once again, please remember we are here to help and support however, we can. Take care all and stay safe.

Kind regards
 Mrs E.Duncan