Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to Term 4!

I hope everyone enjoyed the Easter holidays and managed to take advantage of the good weather. We are in lockdown for another three weeks so our remote learning journey will continue. Teaching staff will, as before, email and share tasks via your child’s GLOW account the night before. We may even trial a task grid and optional activities for those children/parents looking for more ideas.

During remote learning it would be greatly appreciated if you could encourage your child to check in with their teacher or myself every couple of days so we know they are well. Please email/tweet photos of the children at work and play and I will collate these pictures into a weekly slideshow for Twitter. Staff and children enjoy seeing what everyone else is doing and this sometimes inspires children to try out something new. I have decided to do a weekly Gateside Twitter Challenge but will continue to retweet any others I think you may find interesting.

I would also like to reiterate that we are aware families are working from home and that some families will have added pressures during this challenging time. We also know that learning from home is NOT the same as learning in school and it is important that we are proportionate and sensible in our approach to delivering remote education to the children. Please do what suits your family best when completing activities set by the teachers. There are loads of daily online learning opportunities such as the Glasgow Science Centre, Blair Drummond Safari Park, Joe Wick’s Daily P.E. and BBC Bitesize to name a few. There are also lots of outdoor and indoor learning opportunities to develop real life skills e.g. cooking, baking, daily chores, gardening, building etc. The main priority is to

The staff would, however, like to stress the importance of reading every day and that can take many forms e.g. reading together, reading to a younger sibling/pet, listening to an audio book, reading the newspaper/magazine with an adult or older sibling. Bug Club is an excellent online resource where teachers have selected specific books for individuals based on their ability. Bug Club also encourages children to reflect on their reading with questions incorporated throughout the texts. Why not build in a whole family reading time at some point during the day?

The teachers will email your child their work this evening, ready to start on Monday. We are online most of the school day so please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. We are here to support you and our young people.

The start of term 4 may be challenging but we will get through this together. Please take care and stay safe.