

Home Learning Update 5

Thursday, 28th January

Dear Parents/Carers,

With the Prime Minister's announcement on Wednesday it looks like we will be providing Remote Learning until at least the 8th March. We will continue to develop our offer via Seesaw and Tapestry during this time to support you as best we can to meet your child's needs. We will also be planning for your child's return to school.

We know many of you will be worrying about the time out of school and the impact on your child's learning. Remember, this is the same for all children and **we are ready**.

We will be there for your child when they return. We will build in catch up programmes and a recovery curriculum aimed at supporting all the children. We will do the very best for them – and we know, for those in Year 6, the secondary schools will be doing exactly the same to build on our work.

We are, and always will be, here for your children to provide the very best education we can – and that includes their emotional wellbeing too. It is simply what we do, and do well.

Contact Calls

From Monday the Teaching Staff will start 'contact calls' with parents and children. These will be 10 minute calls to see how things are going, provide any advice and if possible a chat with your child (with you present or on speaker) to make that personal contact they need with their teacher.

Please be aware that these calls will be from Teacher Mobiles so the Caller ID will be withheld.

We hope in this way to establish a regular communication to supplement chats via Seesaw. Staff will prioritise those families with children not in school initially, but everyone will receive a call at some point.

In the meantime, if you do have any concerns please contact Mrs Walters via A.Walters@pilsley-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk or Mr Snape on headteacher@pilsley-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk or your class teacher via Seesaw if it is work related.

Staff Testing

School staff have begun systematic Lateral Flow Testing for COVID. The aim of this process is to pick up those adults that show no symptoms and reduce transmission in school. It will also reduce (not stop) the closure of bubbles, and as schools reopen should keep more pupils in school for longer.

There are no plans, as far as we are aware, by the government for testing Primary School Pupils. This has been reported in the press from time to time but the focus currently is only on staff.

February Half Term (15th – 20th February)

The school will be closed during this period to ALL pupils including Key Workers and vulnerable pupils. There will be no work on Seesaw during this time though we will leave up any activities from the previous week. We would suggest continuing regular reading using the eBooks or books from home during this week as a good way to maintain their learning.

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Prioritising Learning

We believe the switch to Priority, Foundation Subject and Additional Activity categorisation has been of benefit to parents. We have a few parents who have kept us informed about their circumstances and have stated this has definitely helped them plan the support for their children when their work/home life has to be carefully balanced. If you have any feedback on the new structure please let us know via headteacher@pilsley-pri.derbyshire.ch.uk.

Remember, be in contact if you need us.

Take care of yourselves.

Yours sincerely



Mr N. Snape
Headteacher and the Pilsley Staff Team