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Headteacher: Mr William Neighbour

Dear Parents & Carers,

Wednesday 6th January 2021

Additional Information about the School Day

I'd like to start by thanking you for your support, flexibility and resilience in recent days. We've been overwhelmed by your feedback, positivity and kind words; you really are a truly wonderful school community! Thank you also for joining in the Teams meetings today; it's been so lovely to see so many smiling faces!

We've fielded questions from several parents over the past 24 hours and are struggling to respond individually, therefore the purpose of this letter is to address those questions.

Children in School

Children in school are experiencing school as it was prior to the Christmas break. Their start and finish times are the same, they are in their usual classrooms with their Teachers and Teaching Assistants and their lunch and break times are the same. They are also doing exactly the same work as those children that are remote learning.

Children do not need to attend every day and you do not need to inform us of the days they will be attending as we have provision. The expectation however, is that they attend school for the whole day.

School lunches are available every day, but a new menu will be in force for the whole school from tomorrow, Thursday 7th January, which is attached to this email.

The school is not currently being provided with infant snacks so please provide your child with a healthy snack (fruit or vegetables only).

Special Diet menus remain the same however, there may be a variation in ingredients as our Cook, Mrs Phillips-Stafford, is using ingredients that she already has available. She knows the eating habits of these few children very well and will ensure that they are fed foods that she knows they will eat (we are currently on Week 2).

Children remote learning

When children join the 'Teams' meeting as a guest, please could they type their name when they join. If the teacher doesn't recognise a name they won't let that child into the meeting (first name and initial surname is fine e.g. John S). Please ask your child(ren) not to share the screen – only teachers should share the screen.

Please ensure that the camera is kept on so that the teachers can see how engaged the children are.

Our current understanding of the expectations is that remote work is compulsory and therefore children should attend all of their Teams sessions and complete the work as much as is practicably possible. We understand that there may be instances where this isn't logistically possible and instances where you may be experiencing rebellion and feel it best to allow your child a little respite. However, if we see gaps start to appear then we have an obligation to follow this up to ensure all children are engaged in learning.

If you are consistently experiencing issues with your child, please don't stress about making them do every little bit. It may be that they need some support and/or something more appropriate for them. In this instance, please email me w.neighbour@newlands.hants.sch.uk

1. Website

The work for each day will be available on our website, on each Class Page, from 4pm the day before. For example, Friday's work will be available at 4pm on Thursday and will be available for 24 hours only. When we upload the next days' work, the previous will be removed.

2. Paper Copies

There will be a trolley outside the school main door where paper copies of work can be collected, and completed work can be dropped off. Please wear gloves and/or bring your own hand sanitiser.

Worksheets will be available from 4pm the day before, up until 8.15am the day of (they will not be available before 4pm). For example, Friday's work can be collected from 4pm on Thursday until 8.15am on Friday and so on. Please always put your child's name and class on the completed work, but first name and surname initial only please (e.g. John S. Y2).

If you are coming in the dark, please bring a torch as 1. the paths are not lit and 2. you won't be able to read the labels on the trolley! The paper copies will be clearly labelled as will the slot where you post completed work. Feel free to enclose your child's work in an envelope.

We will leave the car park gate open; please continue to follow the one way system on site even out of school hours, for yours and others safety. If there are other people on site, please observe social distancing and have a mask with you just in case.

If you have any further questions, please get in touch with us.

Yours sincerely



Mr W. Neighbour
Headteacher

