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Head Teacher: Anne Ansell – BEd (Hons), NPQH, NPQEL

Deputy Head Teachers: Claire Head NPQH & Simon Anderson

School Business Manager: Lindsay Harris

Chair of Governors: Trevor Kendrick

Dear Parents / Carers

We have been in this third wave of lockdown since early January and find ourselves now settled into our new routines in school, as you will have done at home.

We thank you all for your amazing efforts to support your children with their home learning, you have been phenomenal. The children are engaging with their teachers and accessing their learning across the week, anything you can do to help your children is fantastic.

As a working parent myself, and like many of our staff, we are finding it difficult to give our children the attention we think we should, to you I just say, do what you can. Children are amazingly resilient human beings, the lessons in life that you will be sharing with them about patience, work ethic and kindness should not be underestimated.

If you only have time to do one thing a day, have a quality conversation. This might be about the changes in the season, a book you are reading, current affairs, the garden, animals, dinosaurs! Whatever sparks the interest in your family?

We have had numerous applications for critical worker spaces in school. The government has given limited guidance on numbers in school therefore it has been left to head teachers to decide on limits that are safe for their individual communities. As a school we have not turned away anyone whose role is considered 'critical to the covid response', this doesn't mean to say we have not turned away applications where this is not the case.

Four weeks into this lockdown and I am surprised to still be receiving requests for places in school. To keep our critical workers children safe and our staff safe we have put a risk assessment into place, this limits our population of pupils to 25%. We have reached this figure with 157 children attending school across the week. A number of our NHS critical worker parents are having shifts increasing due to the pandemic, this week we have struggled to accommodate requests to increase time in school, I cannot let this be the case. Therefore we will not be accepting any new applications for critical worker places.

Hopefully, we will be able to open fully to all pupils in March. Until this point, we appreciate your ongoing support in this challenging time.

Stay safe

Anne Ansell

Head Teacher

