



Nene Way
St. Ives, Cambs.
PE27 3WF
Phone: 01480 466919
Fax: 01480 498248
www.wheatfields.cambs.sch.uk



Mrs Theresa Thornton
Headteacher
Mrs Emma Verney-Davies
Deputy Headteacher
Mrs Gemma Edwards
Assistant Headteacher

6th January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a week! I hope you are all ok and managing the situation as best you can. As in Lockdown 1 and 2, we are here to help and support as much as we can whilst minimising risk and keeping everyone safe.

We opened to Critical Worker and vulnerable pupils this morning. The Local Authority have asked us to remind parents that this is a national lockdown and the government have made it clear that people should stay at home. Provision is offered to the children of parents who are critical workers or meet another critical criteria who are unable to work from home and/or unable to make other arrangements for their children so have no alternative but to attend school.

If numbers of applicants for this offer are too high, the Local Authority have asked us to prioritise the provision for the children of parents who work in health and social care, education and childcare and for children who have an Education, Health and Care Plan and/or who were or have been in the care system. Thank you all for your support with this.

As before, the children in school are learning from the remote (home) learning plans on the school website therefore whether in school or not, the learning is the same. The plan for the week is available on the Monday morning for that week. The DfE requirement for remote learning for Primary pupils is 3 hours each day. Every family circumstance is unique and all we can ask is for families to do their best with this. The remote learning platform we are using in EYFS is Tapestry and Google Classroom is being used for pupils in years 1 – 6. In addition parents have access to our Readwriter and Mathletics platforms, TT Rockstars and Accelerated Reader to supplement remote learning planned by the teachers. Busythings is also available for our younger learners. Please let us know ASAP if you have any issues with logins.

You may be aware that the BBC are launching 3 hours of learning available on cbeebies to support remote learning from Monday 11th January. The people behind Accelerated Reader have made an excellent online library of over 7,000 books available free - no login required - and unlike a lot of free resources being advertised at the moment these are UK versions of books.

<https://readon.myon.co.uk/library/browse.html> This platform works from most devices and includes both fiction and non-fiction.

Class emails are being used well and are there for you to have contact with a class teacher for your child's year group. All teachers also have a teaching commitment on a rota basis so the response may be delayed or sent by a year group colleague. Pupils work may be assessed and feedback given from a year group teacher. There will continue to be effective communication between year group teachers and LSA's.

Wheatfields has a remote learning offer which has been approved by the Local Authority on behalf of the DfE. The DfE recommends teachers to use video lessons available from the Oak Academy or other providers such as White Rose if they feel that it is of benefit to the children's understanding. We will not be delivering daily video lessons of Wheatfields teachers as it is not the best use of their time but a teacher must have my approval if they know it would be better to film themselves teaching.





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We are collating your responses regarding devices at home. A device is needed to access the detail of the remote learning from the website but the remote learning can still be done on paper, photographed and attached to an email to the class teacher if a device is not available to work on. Promises were made by the Prime Minister for devices to support home learning being made available. We have some that we will be lending out as soon as possible, but not as many as we need. Pupils in receipt of Free School Meals/Pupil Premium will have priority. Secondary aged pupils are being prioritised by the DfE but we are doing what we can and will be in touch as soon as possible.

Please pass on my best wishes and those from the staff to your children. We are thinking of them!

Kind regards,

Theresa Thornton
Headteacher

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Wheatfields Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

