Wednesday 25th March 2020,

Good morning everyone,

I hope you are all doing ok. There is nothing new to report today so just a couple of reminders/clarifications and some other support and links that you might find useful.

I would also like to thank parents that are sending through links and materials to us, this is very much appreciated and will be shared with all parents on the school website (see COVID 19 tab on homepage.

**School phone line:**

If you are trying to contact the school please be patient when ringing. We have very few staff in and no staff are based in the office full time. We will answer as soon as we can. My email is manned all day so if you can’t get through drop me an email and I will get back to you.

**Work packs sent by teachers:**

All class teachers have prepared work packs for pupils and have also developed their class website pages, which include links to online learning. The packs are intended to provide work for this week and next week. Further packs and links will be put on in future weeks depending how long this goes on for. It is inevitable that some pupils will complete all of these very quickly and some will not. I’ve asked teachers to make sure that more resources are available by the end of next week. Please remember to use the online tools as well as the worksheet if possible. If you do want more worksheets this website is great: <http://www.primaryresources.co.uk/>. Times tables are always a good thing to practice, this link will allow you to generate a worksheet that can be tailored to your child’s needs <http://www.timestables.me.uk/printable-pdf-quiz-generator.htm>. I’ve also seen that a maths website designed by Carol Vorderman has been made free today, I’ve not seen it yet so can’t recommend it but I will be having a look later <https://www.themathsfactor.com/>. There is also the daily challenge that I am sending out on my pupil letter. Many thanks to those of you who have had a go at these, 21 of you yesterday.

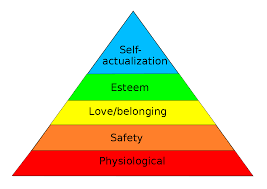
**Free school meals vouchers:**

I may have confused some of you yesterday by saying that we are sending out food vouchers to those who receive a free school meal. Please note that this is different to the Universal Free School Meal that all children in Foundation, year 1 and 2 receive. This is only applicable to those pupils who are registered as being entitled to free school meals. If you are not but think that you may be eligible please use this link. <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/free_school_meals.aspx>

**How much work should your child be doing during the day:**

I have had a few parents contact me to discuss this. The honest answer is that it is up to you. Whilst we are encouraging your children to continue their studies this does need to be balanced with other things too. I’d like to share this with you, and hope that it is not viewed as patronising. It really isn’t intended that way but it may help you in these times:

***Maslow’s hierarchy of needs and motivation:***



Maslow was an American psychologist that studied what children (and adults) need to be motivated and succeed. His model is based on the diagram above. His theory says that unless the red needs are met (Food, water, warmth and rest) you cannot succeed with anything else. Once red needs are met the next most important are the orange ones (Security and safety), and so on.

To me , the key one at this time is the yellow part (Love, relationships and FRIENDS). This is the bit that your child may be struggling with at the moment. They will not be used to not having their friends around. So, **do not feel guilty about letting your child use their phone to facetime friends during the school day, or spend some time playing online games with them. They need this before they can do the green and blue bit)**

The green and blue parts are where education kicks in (feeling of accomplishment, and fulfilling potential).

Look at this like building a house. Red is the ground floor and you can’t build the next floor if that is not in place, and so on.

Please try to encourage your child to engage with activities that are being provided but don’t let it become a battle.

Take care everyone, look after yourselves

Simon Dyson

Principal