Thursday 26th March 2020,

Good morning everyone,

I hope you are all ok and staying fit and healthy. I’ll try and keep this one a bit shorter today, there are just a few messages to give you:

**How much work should my child be doing?**

I want to stress to you that this is really down to you and children will not be questioned if certain tasks are not completed. Teachers are trying to use lots of new methods to provide activities for your children and it may seem overwhelming that you are being asked to complete worksheets, use online links, access emails, join google classrooms etc. In honesty we are not asking you to do all these things. **The only thing I ask is that you read my email each day**, share the one for the children (if you want to) and do whatever you can.

Teaching is not an easy job. It is a real challenge for teachers to tailor work to meet the needs of all of their pupils in their class under normal circumstances (and these people are trained to do it). When teaching pupils of mixed ages it becomes even more of a challenge. We know that some of you out there have several children in several classes and are trying to do this, whilst feeding them, playing with them, looking after the house and also trying to continue working from home. **The reality is that this is impossible!**

We only ask that you do what you can. At the end of the day you are your child’s most important educator, you always have been and always will be. You have the freedom to teach your child however you wish – this does not have to be National Curriculum. We will continue to provide things to support you in this but please remember, **we do not want to add to your stress, we are trying to do the exact opposite.**

**Easter Holidays:**

Over the Easter holidays school will remain open for the full period, **including the two bank holidays.** We are doing this to support you key workers out there that are doing a great job. This will operate in the same way that we are currently operating, ie: only for key worker children and identified other pupils where there are no alternatives. If you had booked sessions in the Easter holiday club these will be cancelled unless you also fall into the category of key workers.

**Charging for before/after school care and holiday provision:**

Usually parents would be asked to pay for this service. At the moment have made the decision not to charge for any of this as our way of supporting key workers in these challenging times. If the situation goes on for a long time we may need to review this but for the next few weeks we are happy to continue this free service to support those of you on the front line of this fight.

Finally, thanks to those of you who are emailing me with the daily challenges and also resources that we can share on the website.

Take care everyone, and many thanks for your continued support.

Simon Dyson

Principal