



BATH & WELLS
Multi Academy Trust

'That they may have life, life in all its fullness' John 10:10

Headteacher:
Mrs Jan Thomson

Pound Lane
Nailsea
North Somerset
BS48 2NP

Telephone: 01275 852720

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Dear Parents and Carers

Another update - but a brief one today! I hope you don't feel overwhelmed by these, but I just want to make sure you are kept up to date as much as possible!

Most class live sessions have worked well this week. We have had lots of positive comments – thank you. I am so relieved too that my story was successfully uploaded. I will try and do a story/message at least once a week if I can. I do encourage you to access Teams if possible as this is our secure platform for posting any video recordings that staff may do. Reception parents will see video uploads on Tapestry.

Unfortunately, since yesterday we have been experiencing lots of problems with the internet connection in school so we are hoping that the remaining meetings can go ahead without technical difficulties. We have reported the problems and we are awaiting a response from the Trust technical team. It's very frustrating for all concerned but please bear with us.

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WESPORT have collated some of the many FREE resources there are for keeping your children active at home. Some activities have a * next to them. These can be used as a quick active break during the day and are 15 minutes or shorter - please see the PDF attached.

Changes to Assessments for 2021

You may have seen in the media that the government has informed schools that there will be no Year 2 or Year 6 SATs this academic year. There will also be no statutory Phonics test for Year 1 and no Year 4 multiplication tests. It will also not be mandatory for schools to complete the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) assessment in 2021 for Reception children.

Staff COVID-19 Testing

You may have seen on the news or in the media that primary schools are now being asked by the government to facilitate regular staff **asymptomatic** COVID-19 testing. We will be starting this process next week. Staff who test positive will have to self-isolate as will any close contacts amongst pupils and staff in school. Adults and children who have any symptoms of COVID-19 must stay at home and get a full PCR COVID-19 test.

Thank you for your co-operation in all of this. I will be in touch next week.

My thanks, as always, to all of you for your support and care for us and my thanks as always to the staff team for all they are doing.

Kind regards

Mrs Thomson
Headteacher



The information below has not changed

Communication

- For issues other than home learning or if the email is personally confidential or a safeguarding concern then please use the office email as usual.
- In these anxious times I will be checking the office emails myself once each day at the weekend for any urgent safeguarding issues or if symptoms or a positive case of COVID-19 is reported amongst the in - school community. Non urgent emails will be picked up on Monday morning as usual.

Home Learning Update

- We are seeing a good response on Teams which is great. If you are experiencing any technical issues, then please contact us and we will try and help you.
- Our updated Remote Learning Strategy will be on the school website by 25 January (the date set by the Government) in our COVID information section. This will reflect any changes we have made since the Autumn Term and in the two weeks since we have been back in school. All schools will have a different strategy reflecting Government guidance. Our plan will be put before the Governing Body to approve before 25 January.
- As instructed in the Government guidance we have to monitor engagement with remote learning. We will be sensitively contacting you if there has been no apparent home learning done as yet, not in a negative way or to pressurise any parent but to support and to offer help if necessary. Please contact us if you are experiencing any difficulties. We know how daunting this can seem, especially if parents are trying to juggle working at home and helping with home learning. Please get in touch with us if you need support.

Keeping Safe on Teams.

- Please do supervise your child on TEAMS where possible, and definitely in any live session.
- Teams' activity is monitored daily by members of SLT.
- If you need to speak to a teacher about any aspects of remote learning, then I ask you kindly please use the home learning email home.learning@kcs.bwmat.org *FAO class teacher* rather than the online chat or the office email please.
- The online chat is a platform that can be seen by all the children and should only be used by the children for greetings/children to talk to the teacher or to each other about specific learning tasks or to ask for support/feedback/guidance. (For younger pupils, parents may of course need to type their comments for them)
- Children and parents should not upload any documents/resources/advice/issues to the online chat. If this happens, we will delete them as you will appreciate that it is the teachers' role to do this.
- If we deem any use of the chat by parents or children as inappropriate or unsuitable, then those messages will be removed as soon as is possible, as they are on view to the whole class, and we reserve the right to withdraw the chat function for your child if we have further concerns.
- Staff will respond to the children as quickly as they can on the Teams chat. Bear with them as they need breaks of course and they are also on rota in school with our 3 key worker bubbles.
- Parents have been sent guidelines and a permission slip for pupils to attend any live sessions. These must be returned to school before we can admit pupils to live sessions.

Pupils in school - minimising close contacts

To minimise the number of people in school each day, I again kindly ask Critical Worker parents to use the school facility only if they need to as we want to minimise the number of people on site each day if we can. The most recent Government update reiterated the following:

'Children with at least one parent or carer who is a critical worker can go to school or college if required, but parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can.'