



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**



8 February 2021: Update 10

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this update finds you well. So, we have come to the last week of this half term and we are really hoping that we will all be back in school as soon as possible once it is safe to do so. School leaders have been told that we will be given two weeks' notice for the return so that we can organise ourselves once again. If I receive any information this week I will send out another short update.

During this week I will be sending a survey out to parents and carers to elicit information, feedback and data from you about this period of lockdown so far, so that we can review and reflect. The survey will be emailed as a Word document for you to fill in and return by email or you can print it and fill it in and drop it into the office or request a paper copy from the office. Once we are back in school with all the children, we will also carry out a review with the pupils about their time in lockdown.



**Birthdays this week – Ruth, Ruby-Leigh, Charlie-Sue, Harry**  
**Birthdays over half term – Finley, Riley**



**For parents of pupils currently using School Provision:**

If a child develops symptoms of COVID – 19 within 48 hours after finishing school on Friday 12 February, schools are “asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school”.

Please email the office if this is the case for your child. I will check on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 February. If you do report symptoms, then I will contact you personally to give you further advice.

## Some important, good news...



As you know, we as a school, support a children's home in Shan State, Myanmar. This is a home for children who have been left orphaned and abandoned with no means of support and so the charity 'Stand by Me' established homes to provide love, care and a family for needy children. Last week we saw the extremely worrying news that there had been a military coup there. I was very concerned about the children in the home, as lines of communication had gone down very quickly. I contacted the charity on Friday and thankfully received this from them:

*'Dear Mrs Thomson*

*The situation in Yangon and the main cities is very difficult. Facebook and internet connections have been blocked, shops closed, and our staff say 'the country is in darkness' which we think means the power supply has been cut off. Food is not easy to come by and people are fearful. Many people have been arrested. All of the children and staff in our projects are well but anxious at this time.*

*In more remote areas, such as Shan State, the situation is a bit easier. It is quieter, food is easier to come by and things seem calmer. Our staff in Shan State have said that everyone is well.*

*This is all the news we have so far. We continue to pray for all of our children and staff and the country as a whole. Thank you so much for your support and concern.*

*Karen (Stand by me)*

This made me feel so relieved and then I reflected quite a lot. Amidst all of our problems, which may quite rightly seem huge to us, we can be truly thankful that our own children are safe and secure, with love, food and a roof over their heads.

*A prayer:*

*For families and friends . . .*

*We are thankful.*

*For the beauty of nature and the world around us . . .*

*We are thankful.*

*For all the things in life that we too often take for granted . . .*

*We are thankful.*

*For food and shelter...*

*We are thankful*

*Please help us to be willing to show our thanks, not only in what we say but also in what we do - each day*

*We are thankful.*

*Amen.*

Take care and God Bless

Mrs Thomson  
Headteacher

THERE IS  
*always*  
SOMETHING TO BE  
*thankful for*

## On –Site Provision

The number of pupils in school at the moment is steadily rising and bubble sizes are increasing. 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.’***

## Keeping Safe Online

E-Safety is regularly taught in school to all pupils explaining and demonstrating how to stay safe and behave appropriately online. We want to support parents during this period of Lockdown so here are some useful Safeguarding Links for parents:

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

[http://www.childnet.com/blog/a-parents-guide-to-fortnite-battle-](http://www.childnet.com/blog/a-parents-guide-to-fortnite-battle-royale)

[royale https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/)

We encourage parents to have conversations with their child about online safety and be aware of how they can build their child’s resilience to online content, encourage open conversations about online life and ensure children know they can talk to their parents/guardians about it.

*Report Harmful Content* has helpful content to support children who have seen something upsetting online:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/advice-parents-what-do-if-your-child-sees-something-upsetting-online>

## Support for Reading on ‘Teams’

**Immersive Reader** is a learning tool that provides a full screen reading experience to increase readability. It can be used to read the teacher’s morning messages, assignment instructions and Word documents using the Office 365 apps.

All the Office 365 apps are available to all students by logging into Office [www.office.com](http://www.office.com) with their own username and password.

Immersive Reader lets you:

- Change font size, text spacing, and background colour.
- Split up words into syllables.
- Highlight verbs, nouns, adjectives and sub-clauses.
- Choose between two fonts optimised to help with reading.
- Read out text aloud, and change the speed of reading.

[How to Use Microsoft Immersive Reader to make Office 365 Accessible - YouTube](#)

## 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**

- We are still 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.
- 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](mailto: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.