

13 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Another update for you...

I want to start by doing a 'shout out' to all my staff. Oh my goodness, I am so proud of them! They have worked tirelessly as they always do and are, like so many of you, going above and beyond at the moment. The staff, like all of us, never say no to a bit of positive feedback. They know that I am so very grateful for all they are doing as I frequently tell them. Some of them have had some kind messages from some parents, which is lovely - thank you to those of you who have taken the time to do this. It means so much to them and really boosts their morale at this difficult time.



I hope the children read my letter to them. I miss them all so much! I will be in regular contact with them as much as I can. There is so much guidance coming out all the time which I must disseminate and act on if needed and lots and lots of meetings. We are now in more of a rhythm with everything though, which is great. It's hard to believe that only nine days ago we had the notice to close school for most pupils!

#### **COVID Cases in North Somerset**

This week we heard of the occurrence of a positive COVID-19 case in a North Somerset School forcing a bubble to close and pupils and staff to self-isolate. I 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. A government update on Friday last week 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.'*

Thank you so much.

#### **Communication**

- If you need to speak to a teacher at any time, then please use the [home.learning@kcs.bwmat.org](mailto:home.learning@kcs.bwmat.org) to contact them – they will endeavour to get back to you as soon as they can.
- For issues other than home learning, 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. All schools will have a different strategy reflecting government guidance. Our plan will be put before the governing body to approve before 25 January.

- We are now ready to set up a 'live' meeting each week with each class as a circle time / check – in session using Microsoft Teams. We will contact you tomorrow with instructions for this.
- 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 via [home.learning@kcs.bwmat.org](mailto:home.learning@kcs.bwmat.org)

### Keeping Safe on Teams.

- Please do supervise your child on TEAMS where possible.
- 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 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 are concerned about any misuse of the chat function by children or parents then those messages will be removed as soon as is possible, as they are on public view, 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.

Thank you for your co-operation in all of this. If I have any new information before Friday, I will send another Update, if not I will be in touch next week.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you need to.

I rather like this quote I saw recently:



We all have a story to tell in this difficult situation that we all find ourselves in and we must appreciate that everyone has their own individual story with their own individual problems to overcome. Let's all work together to show compassion and understanding towards everyone in our community.

I'll finish with one of my favourite prayers - the Serenity Prayer. It seems quite apt at the moment for all of us!



Kind Regards.

Stay safe and God Bless,

Mrs Thomson  
Headteacher