

Tuesday 5th January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for the emails and well wishes received since the lockdown announcement yesterday. We have been busy working to ensure a wide variety of plans are in place, there is much more we will need to do. I will attempt to keep this correspondence brief, however important information is included.

We have continued with a similar format to home learning from the previous lockdown in Summer 2020, whilst making some additions including: increasing the number of Zoom sessions, being clear on when work should be submitted, using Microsoft Teams for accessing instructions and resources etc. These tweaks are based on staff reflections and feedback from July 2020 Parent Questionnaire.

The rest of this week:

- You should have received an email with a timetable outlining home learning arrangements for Wednesday-Friday
- Each year group will have 2x Zoom sessions this week – the first is tomorrow. This will outline the expectations for engagement with home learning and live lessons. Attached to this letter is Parent and Pupil Guidance for Online Learning
- On Friday afternoon, you will receive a timetable for week commencing 11th January. This will help you prepare over the weekend for the coming week
- Find the home learning pack which was sent home on 16.10.20

Next week:

- Children will have 1x Zoom session per day. This will last up to 45x minutes and be led by their class teacher. We have ensured Zoom sessions for each year group happen at the same time every day, to help families settle in to a new routine
- Children will receive resources for 5x English lessons, 5x Maths lessons and 5x other lessons per week. These resources will be available on Microsoft Teams the day before they are needed. If your child is taught English by Mrs Archer, their English Curriculum will be covered within their class planning during this lockdown

- Resources and instructions will be uploaded onto Microsoft Teams. The children's experience of using Teams at school and for homework over the Autumn Term will hopefully put them in good stead for the coming period

Free School Meals:

- If your child is eligible for Free School Meals and **will not** be attending school, a voucher system will be in place. We are awaiting further detail on this scheme, and as soon as we know more will share this information where applicable

Access to Technology:

- We are aware there are a number of families who do not have access to IT. We are working hard with the DfE to ensure we receive our allocation of laptops and will be looking to distribute equipment to these families. This will be a priority for us to resolve asap.

I am in no doubt the coming period will be trying for us all, in different ways. If there is anything we can be of help with, please do make contact office@widcomebjuniorschool.com or 01225 310139.

Best wishes,

Claire Taylor

Headteacher