



15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Children,

It is so sad that most of you are not in school now, but it is the safest decision to keep you and your families safe. I am sure that the COVID cases will reduce soon and then the government will tell us that you will be able to return to school.

I have been writing a lot to your parents to tell them what is happening, and hopefully they have all told you what I have said. I know your class teachers have been sharing information with you through Google Classroom.

We are all so proud of you all; you have all logged on to the live lessons and have handed in the work so that the teachers can mark it. We have loaned out about 60 laptops, this has helped you all get on to Google Classroom. Your teachers have told me how amazing you all are. This is a very difficult time and you should be very proud of how well you are coping.

During the last two weeks, your teacher has reminded you to hand in work. They will not be asking you next week; you must remember to do it yourself or ask a parent to help you. Each week the teachers tell me who has and who has not handed in work. I will be giving certificates out to those people who try really hard. Your teachers are trying very hard to mark all of your work, but it is taking them a long time so from next week, they will give out DoJo points to celebrate your hard work.

I know that you may not be able to get on every live lesson, but please try your best. Don't worry and don't get upset if you can't get on, as we know that you are only children and that you need help. Your parents may have important jobs to do, which means that they can't always help and sometimes technology is a bit strange and cuts you off or stops you logging on. I am sure that your adult is trying their best to help you, but this is also new to them, so be kind to them if they are stuck.

Please remember that during the live lessons, you need to be ready to learn. You need to behave exactly the same way as you would in a school lesson. This means that the teachers should not see any of you wearing dressing gowns! The chat function is on Google Meet to help you with your work- the chat stream is saved by the teacher and if we see anything inappropriate then your parents will be contacted. During the live lessons, please don't get up and down for drinks or wander off from the screen. Pretend that you are in school and have everything ready before you see your teacher and remember to sit up straight. Your parents have all accepted an acceptable use policy- this means that they have agreed that you will behave. The teachers will give out W1s, W2s and W3s if necessary and then they will tell me, but I am sure that will not happen.

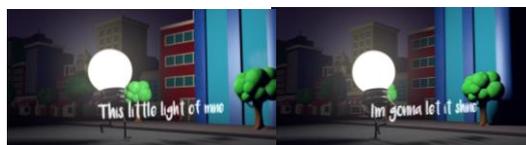
The teaching assistants are making up a resource pack for you; the packs will include a whiteboard and pen and some other items. This will help you during the lessons, as you will be able to show your teachers your work and ideas. We don't want you to look at a screen all day so your teachers are giving you different ways to complete your work. When the packs are ready to be collected, we will message your parents and they can come down.

Mrs Colley and I will try and come into some of your lessons next week so that we can see your happy faces.

I hope you have a lovely weekend. Remember that we are so proud of you and keep trying your best, and let your little light's shine!

Speak soon,

Mrs Tumelty  
Acting Head of School



Artsmark  
Silver Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



North East  
Better Health  
at Work Award  
Gold Award



Building  
stronger  
families

