



Dear Families,

Thank you very much to those of you who completed the online questionnaire regarding our remote learning offer.



As a school, we are incredibly pleased that 95% of you rate our remote learning provision highly. I have spoken to some parents individually about any concerns and hopefully the problems are now eradicated. If you still have any concerns, then please do contact me directly.

The staff at school are working very hard to provide high quality resources that match the individual needs of the children and in the questionnaire, 96% of you said that the work that we are providing is suitable for your child. Once again, we have put measures in place to ensure that all children have the work matched to their individual needs.

88% of parents, who answered the questionnaire, felt that the amount of work that was set by school was appropriate. The remaining 12% of parents felt that it was either too much or too little. Please remember that if you would like your child to complete additional work, they can always log on to Lexia, Reading Plus (Year 4-6), My Maths, Ed shed and Times tables Rock Stars. All children were sent their passwords for the remote systems- if you would like to be reminded of these, then please ask the class teacher and they will send them electronically to you. If you feel that your child has too much work then remember that you can only try your best and it would be amazing if they could log on to the two live lessons a day.

After half term, we are aiming to teach the majority of live lessons in the morning. Unfortunately, this can't always be the case as we have to work around Mr. Bourdieu teaching live music lessons to each class on a Tuesday and our PE coaches in school on a Monday and Wednesday. A few parents have stated that they would like more live lessons and a few would like less live lessons; we are going to remain teaching two live lessons a day. The teachers will be on the lessons for approximately an hour per lesson to support your children.

The teachers and teaching assistants are currently providing intervention support to children at home and at school. The interventions will mainly be carried out on an afternoon and they are either face-to-face in school or through Google Meet for children at home. If your child is in school, then this will happen automatically. If the teacher gets in touch to offer additional live sessions to those children at home, then please help your child be prepared for the session. We are aiming to help the children 'catch-up' as quickly as we can. During an intervention, the children are grouped in a group of about four pupils with similar needs and they last approximately 20-30 minutes.

Following your feedback on the questionnaires, we have purchased a maths and English workbook for each child from reception to year six. The books are similar to the book that we provided in lock-down one. Children in school will receive their books this week, allowing them to be ready to start using them after the half term. If your child is not in school over the week, then please call into the school office to collect them. If you are unable to collect the book due to shielding or isolation, then please let us know as soon as possible. All children must have their book ready to use them after the holidays.

We are awaiting an additional book for the reception pupils, so please wait until the end of the week before collecting reception packs.





The teachers will be using the books during live lessons; it is vital that you do not allow your child to complete additional pages unless directed to by the teacher. All books must be returned to school when we return fully so please keep them in a safe place.

- If your child is in school full time, then their book will remain in school.
- If your child is in school for part of the week, then the book will be sent home this week with your child and must be returned on the days that your child is in school. To adhere to our COVID protocols, your child must transfer the book between home and school in a plastic bag. Your child will place the book directly in their tray when they come into school. Adults will not touch the books unless they are wearing gloves or have sanitised their hands prior to touching to book.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support.

Mrs Tumelty
Acting Head of School.

Comments from parents:

'I just want to say a massive well done to all of the staff in school. I think that you have all done an amazing job at putting everything together in such a short space of time, pushing yourselves to get everything organised for all of the children to carry on their education at home.'

'I think it is going great, my child is fully engaged and enjoys the lesson.'

'You have all been heroes throughout this pandemic from supplying school work to work packages and many phone calls.'

'My children are trying their best and it is reassuring to know that they have incredible support from all of the teachers.'

'My child really enjoys the live lessons, as it gives her some normality seeing the teacher and the other children.'

Let's celebrate:

96% of parents believe that St. Mary's Remote Learning is a high standard.

96% of parents feel that the work set remotely is suitable for their child.

88% of parents believe that the school are setting the correct amount of work.



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



North East
Better Health
at Work Award
Gold Award



Building
stronger
families

