

Westfields Infant School

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15th January 2021

Dear Parents,

We are now two weeks into the new calendar year and a new school year although it's not quite the start we expected. I am incredibly sad that we are in this situation again, I really didn't think schools would be closed to most children for a second time but here we are. At least there is now a vaccine so there is hope that we will soon be on top of this awful virus.

A lot has happened in the last two weeks. We are now settled back into more new routines at school but we are missing all of the children who aren't here. The children who are here have adapted to this new situation and are just getting on with their learning despite the fact they aren't always with their best friends or usual teachers.

Remote learning is up and running, but we are always looking for ways to improve our offer. We are hoping to be able to start live stories with all classes soon, look out for further information from the teachers.

Parents have been very positive about our remote learning offer. The feedback seems to be you appreciate getting the learning the day before so you can plan your day. We continue to think about how we can further improve this. We are now working on providing some recorded lessons for Year 1 and 2. We haven't gone down the route of live lessons because we feel it doesn't work for young children. It's appropriate for older students who can learn with greater independence but our young children would still need an adult beside them supporting them to engage. I feel it's an added pressure on parents as you would have to be present at a specific time to supervise your child's learning.

Most parents are posting work their child has done on a regular basis. This really helps the teachers to plan next steps in learning. I cannot stress how important it is to try and complete as much of the set work as you can. If you are struggling with technology issues please let us know as we may be able to help. Having said that please be kind to yourselves. There will be days when things don't go well. We appreciate how hard you are all working at home, I know you also have your own work to do and other children to take care of. The most important thing is wellbeing, both yours and your children. There are lots of resources on line to support with this, including this [DfE document](#)., resources on the [Young Minds](#) website and the [NSPCC](#) website amongst others.

We wish you all the very best. This situation is extremely hard for us all but it will pass. I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Janette Teague

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Headteacher