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Friday 8th January 2021

Dear Ellingham Families,

We hope you are keeping safe and well.

Thank you for your support

I wanted to celebrate the end of the first week back at school. An unusual celebration for an unusual week but living through such torrid and constrained times, I believe we should celebrate the things we have achieved. I have recorded a celebration assembly today for children available on Google Classroom but the acknowledgements are numerous for our whole school community:

- ✧ For almost all children joining in the learning on Google Classroom. The level of engagement has been rising all week as we all get to grips with the new way of working.
- ✧ For collecting your children's school books. Almost every child will have their books for next week's learning. That's phenomenal and strengthens the connection to school and provides continuity of learning.
- ✧ Juggling your own work demands with children's learning. We appreciate the challenge of this so please let us know the challenges you face and we will endeavour to support if we can.
- ✧ For engaging in live lessons. Teachers and children in school are genuinely excited to see everyone's faces and the ability to respond in real time to the issues that arise is becoming increasingly sophisticated. If your child needs help, let us know and one of the teaching team will be in contact. If you need help with technology, please let us know.

Remote Learning Information

There was very little notice of the lockdown, as you know, but staff have worked really hard to get to grips with remote learning. We have pulled together a remote learning policy document, which outlines our rationale and curriculum offer and exemplifies how teaching and learning will be executed. This will be ready to share with our community early next week but I would like to highlight some excerpts, which will help everyone with regards to marking and feedback expectations:

- * If the work is challenging and your child needs support, do let the teachers know straight away and they will talk them through the problem. If you are happy and able to help, it would be useful for the teachers to know what your child got stuck on so they can cater for this in the next lesson.
- * When work is completed, if possible, please take a screenshot of the completed piece and upload it to Google Classroom.
- * If this is tricky, completed work can be submitted via year-group emails.
- * Teachers will aim to feedback daily on completed English and maths work and weekly on completed science, history or geography work. Our three-star marking system will be followed:



- * This star may be recorded numerically on Google Classroom: 1=* 2= ** 3=*** as this feeds through to our assessment data
- * A personalised written next step comment or question may accompany the star to support and challenge children to achieve their learning objective.
- * Wherever possible, work will be marked on the day it is submitted however, this isn't always possible if teachers are engaged in a day on lesson input and support.
- * Google classroom will be checked according to teachers' working hours, primarily during the normal school day.
- * Please aim submit work by 4pm latest each day so there is time mark and feedback. We recognise that this might be difficult due to work commitments but we can't guarantee the work will be checked until the following working day if this deadline isn't met.

Support with Technology

We are aware how frustrating it is trying to access new technology and we are here to offer support over the phone or via a google meet. If you have a gaming console at home and would like to use this as a means of accessing Google, please click on this link to see how gaming consoles can be used to access Google Classroom: <https://sway.office.com/ka0yFbKLeLuli0Wf> We have a number of keyboards and headphones which we can lend to families to support the use of gaming consoles.

If lack of mobile data is hindering you, please do let us know as the government have set up a scheme which schools can access to request data increases for families. If you have any queries regarding accessing remote learning, please do get in touch as we want to everything in our power to support families at this time. See link for more information: <https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/about-increasing-mobile-data>

Testing Centre at Chessington Sports Centre

Cases are incredibly high in Chessington and Kingston and we really want to ensure that everyone is as safe as possible. You will have seen from the letters tonight that we have had one reported case. We are being incredibly cautious at school and staff will have access to daily testing from Monday.

I would like to make you all aware that Chessington School Sports Centre has been set up for lateral flow testing for those without any symptoms. Any Ellingham child or family member can use this facility to be tested. See details below:

Address: Chessington Sports Centre, Garrison Lane, Chessington, KT9 2JS

Dates: Week days from 04/01/21 10am - 5pm

Book your test day and time here: [Rapid Test Booking and Consent form](#)

Thank you again to all of our families for working so hard to ensure your children keep learning. It is truly uplifting to see and we are grateful to each and every one of you. I will continue to be in touch with you all regularly and I urge you to keep in contact with us and let us know how we can support you and your children.

Please keep safe,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Keogh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'L' and 'K'.

Mrs L Keogh

Headteacher