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Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

First of all – yeah!!!!!! Well done to all of our children, families and staff for making it through what has been a rollercoaster of a half term! We started this half term, all returning to school for one day, with the rest of the half term being a challenge for all, to say the least. I think it is more than fair to say that we are all ready to stop and have a break. I can hear the parents cheering now – more than the children!

I just wanted to share with you some information regarding a recent staff wellbeing survey that was completed by our wellbeing team in school. It really does show how remarkable our staff team and school community is. Some of the key highlights included:

- They feel they are making a positive difference each day;
- They feel our school is a happy and enjoyable place to work;
- They feel they are treated fairly and equally;
- They feel supported in school;
- They are consulted/supported at times of changes;
- There is a climate of trust in school;
- They bring a positive energy to the team.

It makes me feel extremely proud of the way the incredible team have all come together once again, and gone 'over and above' to support our children and families.

I would like to once again celebrate how resilient our wonderful children have been. So many things have changed for them and they have persevered, taking things in their stride, and adjusted along the way.

Thank you so much to those of you who have completed the Parent/Carer Questionnaire regarding home learning. If you have not yet managed to complete this, please click [HERE](#) for the KS1 and KS2 questionnaire, or click [HERE](#) for the Reception questionnaire. Both will be open until 11am on Monday (15<sup>th</sup> Feb). We will then review this information as a leadership team straight after half term.

Whatever you have been doing this half term, be kind to yourself and be proud for what you have achieved. Everyone is just doing their best and that is all we can do.

### COVID Update

**In terms of notifications of positive cases during half term: Please only contact us to inform us of a positive case if your child has been in school for the previous 48 hours before symptoms.**

***For example, if your child attended school today and developed symptoms on Saturday and has a positive test, we would need to know as we would have to ask their bubble to isolate.***



***If you child was in school today (Friday) and developed symptoms on Monday, we do not need to be informed during half term. (This is because they have not had contact with their bubble for 48 hours before developing symptoms).***

**If you are in any doubt of whether to inform us of a positive case, please just email us the information regardless.**

Please only email during the holidays to confirm a positive case. It is important that all staff are able to have a break this half term, including the wonderful admin team, who have been checking emails regularly, out of hours. Until Tuesday, they will complete a check once each day for any information regarding a positive case; fingers crossed, this does not happen.

This also applies to Google Classroom. I have asked all staff to ensure they switch off all notifications on Google Classroom/Tapestry until we return back to school after half term. Staff wellbeing is a key priority and it is important that staff are able to switch off from school and spend time with their own families.

### **Thank you**

Last week I mentioned the importance of protecting our school community and ensuring we all stay within the government rules in order to reduce the transmission and lower the risk to staff and our whole school community. We previously had children sharing information about sleepovers and going to the houses of friends to play. I am really pleased to say that there has been significant progress with this - thank you. We will continue to monitor this after half term in order to protect our whole school community as best we can.

### **Home Learning**

On Tuesday 9th Feb 2021, we celebrated Safer Internet Day. The children have been watching videos from the 'ThinkUknow' website, covering different aspects of online safety (i.e. being kind online; sharing photos appropriately; live streaming and gaming). We've thought carefully about the key messages from these, including discussions, posters and advice to others. We also emailed out some useful information to support yourselves in helping to ensure your child stays safe online.

Part of our curriculum is focused on the importance of diversity and celebrating the similarities and differences in different cultures, religions and celebrations. On Monday we had an assembly celebrating Chinese New Year, and each phase set a follow up activity task this week. It was wonderful to see children sharing these during our assembly this morning.

It was great coming together and reflecting upon what they have all been learning this week and the great effort they have put into each activity. As well as the Friday Celebration Assembly, for the last few weeks, each day, children in school and at home are being chosen as the 'Star of the Day'. Parents have fed back that this has been very positive for their children and has helped to keep them motivated - we will continue with this after half term.

Each week we continue to celebrate more children who have been recognised for their fantastic effort, both at home and in school. The superstars from today's celebration assembly were:

<u>Key Stage 1</u>	<u>Lower Key Stage 2</u>	<u>Upper Key Stage 2</u>
Class 1: Matilda H and Artie P	Class 3: - Lewis S and Macey B	Class 5: Naomi D, and Alfie M
Class 1/2: Sophie H and Jack H	Class 3-4: Quinn N and Aleisha B	Class 5/6: Isabel B and Freddie T
Class 2: Caiden B and Jenson J	Class 4 - Ivy W and Hayden B	Class 6: Holly T and Bailey C

As I have mentioned during the last 2 assemblies, when we return after half term, we will be sending out certificates for all children who have been engaging well and trying hard with their home learning over this last fortnight. They will be receiving a certificate for this.

It is now time to switch off the laptops/tablets and enjoy a break from home learning. Think about the things we shared during our discussions around mental health and spend time doing things you enjoy.

Enjoy the break,

Leila Rothenburg

Headteacher