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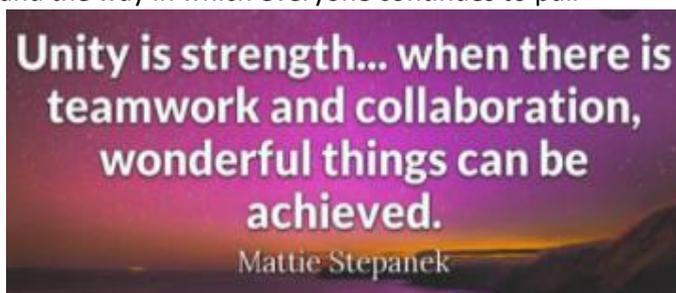
Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another eventful week.

As this week is 'Children's Mental Health Week', with a focus on encouraging our children to 'express themselves', they have enjoyed participating in various activities and tasks with assemblies, stories, live check in sessions and daily challenges. As part of our curriculum, mental health and wellbeing are built throughout into our PSHE offer. This is because we value the importance of promoting awareness of what mental health is, and to enable children to implement strategies to manage their own feelings and emotions, particularly during this challenging time.

At Rothwell Primary School, we believe that building children's self-esteem and self-worth is paramount to their overall wellbeing. We all want children to be proud of themselves and the people they are, and to help them to find ways to express themselves by recognising, releasing and sharing their emotions.

The wellbeing of our children, staff, parents and community is something we have always, and will always, prioritise. We are so proud of everyone who is a part of our RPS team and the way in which everyone continues to pull together. Thank you! I would also like to thank you for the wonderful messages, photos, pictures and videos you have shared as part of the challenges this week. I know many staff have been moved to tears by the kindness shown, and the creative ways that the children have embraced the tasks and shared the activities with their loved ones. Hopefully, you also found useful the information leaflet we emailed out earlier this week, with guidance on how to support your child with their wellbeing and mental health.



It is wonderful to see so many of our children completing their remote learning and taking part in live sessions. We have 91 % of children accessing learning this week, which is just incredible. Thank you to our children for their great effort, and to you and everyone at home for supporting them.

Our Remote Learning Offer for All:

- ✓ Teachers have made a daily, home learning video, welcoming the children to the morning, sharing any key learning points from the previous day, and introducing the learning set. Children have been set English, Mathematics and a wider curriculum topic (plus phonics for EYFS and KS1 children) using Google Classroom or Tapestry. Staff have been responding to children's work and answering questions in the comments section.
- ✓ Your child can access 'Rising Stars' to read the online reading books they have been allocated, as well as other online learning, available for each year group: TT Rockstars, Spelling Frame...
- ✓ Children at home have been able to hold a 'Check in' session. This is a great way to support children's connection and wellbeing which is one of the most important parts for our children.
- ✓ A daily physical challenge or link will be posted on Google Classroom.
- ✓ Stories or chapters from the class novel have been added to your child's Google Stream/Tapestry account.



- ✓ We have also carried out live guided reading with children from years 1-6.
- ✓ We have also experimented with small groups of children who require specific input.

We have also been trialing the following

- ✓ We are trialing specialist sessions for children who need specific support, such as speech and language.
- ✓ We are also expanding our SEMH offer and starting a new 'Seasons for Growth' group to support children who have experienced loss of any kind.
- ✓ Additional small reading groups for identified children.

THANK YOU!



We would like to thank Nigel Evans and the team at Johnsons Workwear. They have been extremely generous in donating 2 laptops for our children to use during 'bubble closures' and during this lockdown period. As a result of their kindness, two additional children/families have been supported with their remote learning. We really appreciate your support.



COVID Update – Children at Home

Please notify the school of any positive cases of COVID, even if your child is accessing remote learning and hasn't been in school. We have been asked to add this information to a daily form which we return to the DfE. If your child has not been in school for the last week, please title the subject 'Positive case – remote learning'.

COVID update - children attending school:

As shared previously, the measures below still apply, however, **I do need to stress the importance of parents socially distancing and keeping 2m+ apart from each other, particularly at the end of the school day, when collecting children.** With the increased transmissibility of this disease, this is more important than ever.

- PLEASE DO NOT send your child to school if they have any of the three main COVID symptoms.
 - A high temperature – this means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).
 - A new continuous cough.
 - A loss or change to their sense of taste or smell.
- If they have a positive result – please email us immediately with the subject named as POSITIVE TEST and a copy of the confirmation, so we can review any action that may need taking to keep people safe. admin@rothwell-pri.leeds.sch.uk
- If your child has to isolate, they must stay at home. If they have siblings that need dropping off and you have no one who can support you with this, please contact the school office and we will work with you to find a solution.
- Please email the results, even if it is a household member, before bringing your child back to school.
- If you are outside, within 1 metre of another parent for 1 minute (with or without a mask) you would be classed as a close contact if they were to have the virus. People are contagious from 2 days before they even have any symptoms. This would mean you would have to isolate for 14 days if Test and Trace had to track close contacts. Please try to maintain 2m+.



- If your child shows any of the 3 symptoms, we have to contact you to ask you to isolate as a household and anyone with symptoms must then access a test. This is the same for children across the country. As a parent myself, I understand the difficulties and additional stress this may cause, but we have to do everything we can to keep our school community as safe as possible.
- Please follow the 1 way system at all times please.
- Please try to ensure only 1 family member enters the school site to drop off or collect children, in order to reduce unnecessary risks.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are obviously in the middle of a pandemic and national lockdown, and it is crucial that we all follow the national rules. Over the last week, we have had several children who are currently attending school, talking about the things they have been doing out of school, either during the evenings or at the weekend. They have mentioned things including: having sleepovers at their friend's house; mentioning that friends have been to their house for a party or they have been round to their friend's house for tea. With the extremely high infection rates and the number of cases of the new variant in the Yorkshire and Humber region, it is crucial that we all follow the rules.

We have gone to extensive measures to ensure children and staff attending school do so in as safe a way as possible. I have a duty of care to protect our committed staff here in school, as well as children in school and their families at home. We will investigate any such incidents and anyone who has been breaking the lockdown rules regarding mixing bubbles. It may result in your child being asked to isolate before they are able to attend school. ***Please help to ensure we do not have to take this action!***

We had fun during our assemblies this morning, coming together and reflecting upon what we have been learning this week. As well as recognising the individuals who were chosen and rewarded with a certificate, our children celebrated as a team and also shared tips for supporting our mental health. Children recognised during assembly are chosen for a whole host of reasons - it is a lovely way to come together!

Our 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: Jamie B and Emelia F	Class 3: - Harry J and Bella G	Class 5: Hamzah M, Ralph R
Class 1/2: Stanley R and Alastair G	Class 3-4: Devlyn and Halle C	Class 5/6: Emily D and Layla B
Class 2: Kiera C and Nancy B	Class 4 - Harley O and Charlie N	Class 6: Rowan L and Luke A

To recognise and reward all of our children who are engaging well with their remote learning over this week and next, we will be looking to send out certificates straight after half-term. Try your best next week - you can do it!

Next week is the last one before half term. You will be pleased to know that children and adults will have a week's break from home learning; last push next week before the break!

Many thanks, keep safe.

Leila Rothenburg

Headteacher

