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Dear Parents / Carers,

Another week nearly completed – well done to all those children who are working so hard at home on their Remote Learning and to the children who are in school, working in ‘Bubbles’. I cannot praise you all enough. Also, well done to the parents and families, as I know how hard it is to balance and juggle everything at home.



I hope you have found the phone calls home supportive. Staff have said how lovely it has been to talk to everyone over the last couple of weeks. Zooms are now in their second week, so as we are ‘seeing’ most children, the next phone calls home will continue after half term.



Staff are currently writing mid-year reports for all children. These will report on your child’s learning from September to December (while we had them in school). We have also added a section linking to remote learning and this will link to the work being uploaded onto Class Dojo or work packs being sent back in. We aim to get the reports out to you in March. If you haven’t managed to upload any work yet don’t worry. You still have time and a help sheet is attached to this letter.



Also, we are still receiving some lovely messages from parents – thank you, as this is hugely appreciated. I cannot tell you how much these lift our spirits in school and makes us feel so proud of all the children. Please appreciate most of the staff, including myself, are juggling between coming to work, doing the best for your families as well as overseeing our own children’s remote learning. We all have good and bad days and that’s fine!



I’m sure you will agree with me that the staff are working tirelessly with the remote learning and wellbeing checks. The office staff and wellbeing team are also working hard to ensure food hampers and vouchers are being provided, as well as loaning out devices to as many families that need them to ensure no child is disadvantaged by not having the essentials. This week I have received 16 laptops from the Department of Education. If your household does not have a laptop or tablet or if you have two or more primary aged children and are struggling to find time for them all to get access, please let me know as I’d like to ensure that all our new laptops are being used by the end of next week.



As we are now in week four of Lockdown, I’ve put a quick Question and Answers section below to try and help with a few misconceptions. I’ve also attached a help sheet for Class Dojo, as a few parents are struggling to upload their child’s work for the teachers to see.



We still have no idea when schools will go back to normal, so if you have any concerns please get in touch. School is not open over half term (even for the children in now), it is also closed for the two INSET days which were set last year, February 22nd and 23rd. For those 7 school days work will not be set.



Best wishes,

Mrs K.Burke
Headteacher

Questions and Answers:

Remote Learning:

Q: How much remote learning should my child be doing daily?

A: The Government expectation is 3 hours for Infants, 4 hours for Juniors.

Q: Would teachers prefer me to upload work daily or in one go at the end of the week?

A: Staff are checking profiles daily, so ideally, they would like daily posts so they can support further if children are stuck or reassure children they are doing well.

Q: Can I ignore what's being set by the school and just do my own thing with my children?

A: We'd rather you follow the daily work being set as it follows the National Curriculum. This will ensure when your child returns to school, their learning is still on track and they haven't fallen behind compared to their peers.

Q: Why are we getting posts / drafts sent back on Class Dojo?

A: Teachers might be sending posts / drafts back as they would like improvements made to enhance the learning. If this is the case the work can be amended, then re posted. (Mainly English or Maths)

Alternatively, some posts may not be appropriate e.g. your child is not fully dressed, or in pyjamas. Please can I remind parents that staff should not be seeing images like this, as it is not appropriate.

Q: My child is finding a task hard. Should I still post if I know the answers are incorrect?

A: Yes please. Only you and staff can see individual posts, not their friends or classmates. If the teachers can see where the child is going wrong, they are then able to support further.

Q: As a parent I need some guidance with the work. Can I ask teachers as I know they are busy?

A: Of course, the teachers are willing to help you with strategies and how to set it out before you start the task. Just message them on Class Dojo, however they may not reply immediately so please be patient.

Q: I am really struggling to get my child to do what I ask. Can I just send them back to school as I am worried they are falling behind?

A: Please don't feel alone on this. Many families, including myself, are struggling to support our children at home with their education. Sending your child to school in a National Lockdown is a last resort. We are trying to ensure everyone remains safe! The more children we allow back, the higher the risk of spreading Covid-19 to others and more lives are put at risk.

Q: I've noticed on my Class Zoom session that there are not many children in school. I assume that I can ask for a place for my child, as there is loads of room and it would be easier for me?

A: Zoom sessions only show children in that Class not in each Bubble. Currently we have two school Bubbles, and both are at full capacity. Please don't request a place now unless you have no other alternative and are travelling into work as a critical worker.

Q: My child has lost motivation; are there any rewards / incentives the school can support with?

A: Children are now receiving 'Green slips' on their Class Zoom. These are also uploaded onto their individual profiles. Staff are now going to allocate Dojo points (used like House Points.) These will be counted weekly and the winning house will be announced through Zoom and on the main feed on Class Dojo.

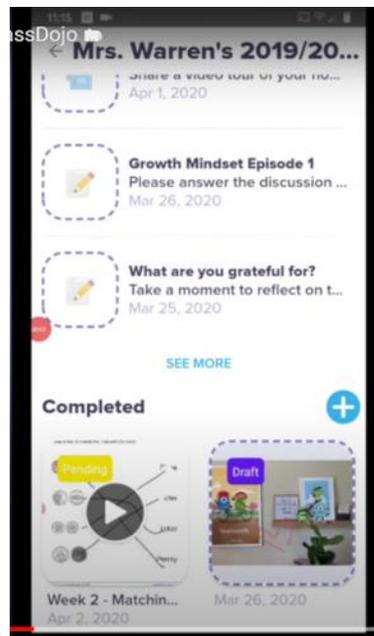
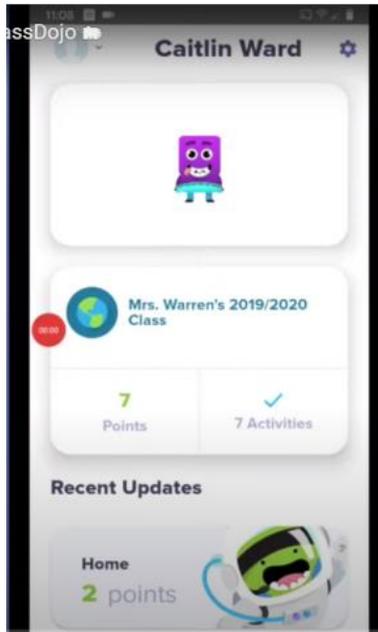
Q: I am struggling with more than two children in my household and only have one device (or mobile phones) for remote learning.

A: Please email the Headteacher for support head@yorkley.gloucs.sch.uk as the school has 16 laptops to loan out.

Parent/Carers Guide to uploading onto Class Dojo.

There is a short video tutorial on how to upload on the link below.

[How students post to their Portfolio on ClassDojo](#) - YouTube



Click on the + sign to add an item to your child's portfolio.



From the APP you can upload a journal, photo, video or drawing. Once it's approved by a teacher it will go onto your child's portfolio

You can access your child's account from the Web and it gives you an option to add a file also.

