



23rd April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: School Update & Home learning

I hope you are all keeping well and managing to adapt to our new state of 'normal'. We are really missing all the children and school is very strange without them. We are still open every day and pleased that we can offer this essential service for our key workers.

I wanted to provide you with an update regarding our continued plans for supporting the children's home learning. However, before I do, I want to stress that the priority for us as a school is to support our families and their emotional well-being during this difficult time and acknowledge the challenges, stresses and worries that many may be facing. This could be because of illness, trying to work from home, wanting to support the children's learning and also possibly coping with the differing demands of younger or older siblings too.

The on-line learning that school is setting at this time has never been about trying to fully replicate learning in school. However, we are hoping that it provides you with some structure to learning you may feel able to undertake during this period. We know that some families will do everything set and more whilst others may struggle to get the daily tasks done. Wherever you are is ok – please don't feel pressurised by what is set or what others are completing each day. We do ask please for to continue to read with and to your children as often as you can. When we re-open we will take the children at whatever point they are and support them all to make progress.

We also want to reassure parents that letting their children play is hugely beneficial in terms of their learning and development – whether this is a role play as shops or cafes for younger children or building Lego models and creating imaginative games for older children. Other daily tasks like singing, cooking, gardening etc will all be beneficial for the children – as will be some regular exercise such as joining in with Joe Wicks every day.

In the weeks ahead we aim to try and build the communication from school further. We want the children to 'see' their teachers every week and so from Monday each teacher will post a short video along with a timetable giving an overview of the learning for that week. Work will then continue to be posted daily for you to access and complete as you feel able to. Many classes are also looking at using a 'blog' so the children can send in messages and communicate with each other that way too.

We are introducing a **weekly assembly on a Friday morning starting from tomorrow morning**. The idea of our children sitting down to watch assembly at 10.30am on Friday as they would in school helps to keep that sense of community.

Our remote learning email address remotelarning@camp.herts.sch.uk is checked daily and I would encourage you to use this if you need any technical help such as passwords etc or would like some support from a teacher in terms of understanding the learning (although we cannot offer an answer the same day as many staff are on the rota to be in school). We also really want to see what you have been doing at home so please do continue to send in a weekly picture to this email address which we can then add to the gallery. I know the children enjoy seeing their friends this way too.

If there is anything further we can do to support you please contact us via email or call the office which continues to be manned each day.

Thank you again for your continued support - with very best wishes to you all

Sharon Barton
Headteacher