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5.1.2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you to provide an update following the announcement of school closures yesterday. I am sure it came as a bit of a shock that schools would close, however, we will do our best in this situation and together we will come out of the other side. I am sure that you can appreciate that due to the late announcement, we are still preparing for another different routine at school and we will keep you updated. Fingers crossed that parent hub does not crash again! Apologies if you had difficulty receiving the messages yesterday.

Today you will have received the key worker application form should you require your child to attend school. If you have applied, you will have received notification that your child can attend and we look forward to seeing them tomorrow. We would like to remind all parents that the government advice is that children wherever possible should be kept at home and access remote learning to limit their interaction with others and therefore reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 to them and to their wider family.

I would like to make you aware of the following points:

- Firstly, the key worker and vulnerable children will now work in key worker bubbles which means that year groups will be mixed. EYFS (Nursery and Reception) will be together, Year 1 and 2 will be together, Year 3 and 4 will be together and Year 5 and 6 will be together. Children will remain in their key worker bubbles for lunch and breaks. This is to allow staff to be able to manage remote learning effectively, to provide feedback and to be able respond to any emails from children/parents.
- Teachers and support staff will be at school working with the key worker groups and the children will have access to the remote learning activities. Children at school will not receive any lessons which are over and above the remote service.
- School meals will be on offer for children however this will be a reduced menu for the time being. Grab bags are available for anyone eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) to collect from school for the rest of this week.
- Newts will still continue to operate from 7:30am until 4:15pm. This will be reviewed due to need.
- For the rest of this week, drop off times, pick up times and allocated gates will remain the same.
- You can still contact <u>admin@newton-hill.org.uk</u> if you have any questions or alternatively you can use the class email system.

Remote Learning from 6.1.2021

Tomorrow, class teachers will email remote learning activities to you using the class email system. This will allow teachers to send you appropriate activities for your child/children. Please note that even if your child is in school you will still receive the email.

Starting next week, every Monday you will receive by email a weekly overview for your child for Maths, English and the wider curriculum. Then, each day corresponding activities will be emailed to you for your child to complete. The weekly overviews will also be posted on our website under the 'Pupil Zone' tab. The EYFS team (Reception and Nursery) will use tapestry for their remote learning and further information will follow from the EYFS team.

We will continue to communicate with you through Parent Hub with any updates but it will not be used to post remote learning activities. We will be arranging some Zoom sessions for each class on a weekly basis so that children can see each other and their class teacher; more information and an agreement will follow.

We fully appreciate that this is yet another difficult time for everyone but we must follow the guidelines from the government and work together. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

C. Wheatley

Mrs C Wheatley Headteacher