

WHITLEY MEMORIAL C of E AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Acting Headteacher – Mrs Claire Gray

'Let your light shine' – Matthew 5:16

Our Current Core Value: Courage

08/01/2021

Dear Parents/Carers/Children,

'Happy New Year'

I hope that you were able to have an enjoyable and safe Christmas holiday and enjoy family time together. Unfortunately, we again find ourselves in a time where the prevalence of Covid-19 is causing schools to have to close and return to Remote Learning. Of course this is not a situation that anyone wanted to be in but it is a necessity to keep us all safe. We are missing the children already however, in order to keep everyone as safe as possible, **we urge you not to send your child into school unless you really need to.**

Remote Learning

In order to fully access our remote learning package for children, you will need to use digital technology and we may be able to help you with this. If you do not have the necessary hardware (eg laptops/ tablets) we have equipment available that can be loaned for home use. We can also request increased data allowances on mobile devices to support disadvantaged children. This is for families who do not have fixed broadband at home or who cannot afford additional data for their devices. It is essential that you contact us as a matter of urgency if you need help with accessing Remote Learning on-line.

As a school, we have decided not to broadcast live lessons to homes for many reasons including GDPR and tying people down to specific times. Any videos we send out will be pre-recorded.

Please be aware that a lot of our staff are also working with children in school so may not be able to respond to work immediately. This may also mean that they are replying to work or setting work out of school hours. It is therefore really important that children are turning their notifications off after 5pm. It is not good for pupils' mindset if they hear notifications arriving later in the day as they may feel that they have to act on this straight away. It is also not fair on teachers to be expected to reply to work/ parents questions in the evening. We promise that we will get back as soon as we can.

We fully understand the very difficult situation that parents now find themselves in having to do home schooling. Please try not to get stressed and worried about this, although I know that for many this is very difficult. We are always here to chat to, no matter how insignificant you think your worry is.

Nursery

Although our Nursery is open, we are now at the number of children that we feel we can accommodate at present, in accordance with our risk assessment. However, if you are a keyworker or have a vulnerable child please still contact the school.

Emblematic Ltd

Due to staff working from home, the phone lines are only available to parents on a Monday. Tuesday and Thursday, however the email customerservices2@emblematic.co.uk is monitored every day.

School Dinners

As of next week, we will be providing one choice of hot meal for the children in school. You will be able to see this on School Grid. If your child does not like this meal, a packed lunch from home may be more suitable.

Uniform

If your child is attending school, please send them in their school uniform.

Free School Meals

We have now got approval for free school meals vouchers for this week for benefit related eligible children. We are hoping to get these out to you before the end of the day so keep an eye on your emails.

Take care and keep safe

Claire Gray



