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8 January 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers

In-School and Remote Learning Support Rota

As from next Monday we will be teaching the children of critical workers/ vulnerable children in their original classrooms, thereby halving the number of children in each room. They should therefore come to their own class external door each morning.

To achieve this, one class in each year group will be taught by a teacher whilst the other class will be taught by their teaching assistant. The teacher will teach Maths and English to the children in both classes each day. The teaching assistants will teach the foundation subjects to both classes each day. The children at home will continue to be taught by the remaining teacher and teaching assistant. Each week, the staff supporting remote learning will switch with the staff in school, so that your children get to see their own teacher and teaching assistant in class/ online every other week.

This new rota has been a challenge to organise. We have been very keen not to take both year group teachers away from the remote learning that is so vital for our children at home. However, we did not have the staff in place throughout the day to support this plan. It has only been possible thanks to the flexibility of our support staff workforce who have volunteered to change their working patterns, agreed to work longer hours and also to take on significant extra responsibility. I am extremely grateful for them for doing so.

The work on Google Classrooms will continue to mirror the work in school as far as possible. This is vital for the education of our pupils who are at home. It should hopefully encourage them to take part in remote learning, knowing it is the same as the learning that is going on at school that day. It should also support the children attending part-time, on only the days they need, by making it easy to switch between home and school learning. By next Monday all the children at home will be able to engage with recorded lessons; allowing them to access the lessons at a time which is convenient for you at home.

Finally, I would just like to pass on a heartfelt thank you for the unanimous support and many expressions of confidence that we have received from you this week. As a mutually supportive home-school community, we only grow stronger in the face of malign influences.

It seems I was a bit rash on Tuesday, saying that I would hopefully not be writing to you every single day this week! © Have a good weekend. And thank you.

Yours faithfully

Mr Sean Smith Headteacher