

Dear Parents and Carers

Our term began so well on Monday 4th January, welcoming the children back to school. But unfortunately, due to the rising number of COVID infections we find ourselves back in the position of a national lockdown. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many parents and carers who have emailed into school with messages of support. All of the staff team very much appreciate your ongoing kindness and encouragement.

As I outlined in my letter sent earlier in the week, remote learning is now on Google Classroom for children in years 1-6. Activities include pre-recorded videos or live video lessons in English and Maths as well as the foundation subjects. Children learning in school will be following the same curriculum as those children who are learning at home.

Remote learning for children in Robins and Wrens classes will be available on Evidence Me and sent to parents via email.

Please do contact school if you are experiencing any difficulties accessing the remote learning. Teachers will be providing feedback to children once tasks have been completed. We will contact you if we have concerns regarding your child's engagement with their learning in order to offer further support. We all appreciate how challenging home learning is whilst also juggling your own working commitments. Thank you for all the efforts you are making to support your children at home.

We will continue to provide the best home learning we can, balanced with continuing to teach face to face lessons in school. The next few weeks will be challenging for us all but we will get through it by continuing to support each other and our children.

Children in school

School is open to the children of critical workers and key workers; we are so grateful to all of our parents who are working on the frontline, in our hospitals and care homes during these very challenging times.

We have had a number of requests from parents who have identified as key workers and I am grateful that you have asked for places for your children only for the times when no one is able to be at home to supervise them. In minimising the number of contacts we all have, we will be able to reduce the spread of the virus and protect our community. If you are working from home or have another adult in the household who is not a critical or key worker I ask that your child remains with you to access remote learning from home.

Food Bank

We are continuing to provide the food bank for our community in Yarnton and Begbroke. Food can be collected on Mondays, please contact the school office if you would like to use the food bank.

Parents may also be interested in an App called Olio which puts people and businesses in touch with each other who have food which would otherwise go to waste. The link for their website is <https://olioex.com/about/>

Other news

I am delighted to be able to share some good news with you! Mrs Buchannan who teaches in Red Kite class is expecting her second child in the summer. I am sure you will join me in wishing her a healthy pregnancy. We will be appointing a teacher in the spring to cover Mrs Buchanan's maternity leave.

William Fletcher Arts Council

A huge thank you to everyone who has sent in photos for our online photography exhibition. We are extending the deadline for you to send your photos on the theme of winter to the end of next week. Please do take this opportunity to support your child in taking photos with a winter theme and then post them to artscouncil@william-fletcher.oxon.sch.uk The school Arts Council and I will then meet remotely to put the exhibition together for everyone to enjoy.

Many thanks for your continued support in these difficult times

Deborah Nind and the WF Team