

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

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**Westbury-on-Severn
CE Primary School**

Thursday 7th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you all well and coping!

On behalf of the teachers and myself, I wanted to write to say a HUGE thank you to you all for the exceptionally positive way you have all embraced this extraordinarily quick change from face-to-face school-based learning, to remote-learning at home. It is a very big learning curve for us all here, but you are all making it so much easier for us to assess the effectiveness of our plans through your unswerving engagement with it.

I know that this new lockdown has come with no notice to any for us, and that we are all struggling to find our feet with working from home and supporting remote-learning at home. I know how hard it is for some of you who are battling with the difficulties of lack of technology, space to work or children who are finding it hard to concentrate and engage. Please remember that we are here to support you in whatever way we can, within the guidelines we have been set by the Government. Please don't think that any of your worries, however small, are not important enough to us, because they are.

I want to say a particularly heart-felt 'Thank You', to the children. They have worked so hard these past few days and tried with so much determination and perseverance to complete remote-learning tasks. It has been wonderful to see the effort they are all putting into their work.

There is no doubt that the expectations on learning during this lockdown are totally different from March 2020; the biggest difference being that unlike March Lockdown, we are not a child-care facility, and school is still operating, but in two places – here and at home! This has been a big mind-shift for us all and we are still grappling with the practicalities of it all.

One thing that I am very conscious of however, is the fact that we haven't met each day for worship. So, from Monday 11th January at 9am, as part of our school day, I will deliver a zoom worship. This will be a lovely way for us to meet as a school family and join together as we would normally do, before starting the day's learning activities. I will ask Mrs Cox to send out the zoom links on an email to you all on a Thursday, so you have it ready for Monday. Please remember that this is a whole-school zoom session. We expect therefore, children to be ready in dress and mind, to participate in it – no pyjamas! I don't know how successful it will be yet with so many people attending, but we will see if the technology can handle it! As parents, you are able to join in this time as well if you can.

On another note, I am conscious that there is suggestion of snow tomorrow. So, if school needs to close, I will notify you via two channels:

1. The school website will have a message on the welcome/home page, which will scroll across the top. You can access this website at the following address: www.westburyceschool.co.uk
2. The 'closed schools' website will have an alert put on this. You can access this website at the following address: <https://closures.gloucestershire.gov.uk>



Once again, thank you all so much for all you are doing. Your kind messages have been a real joy and boost to us here.

With warmest wishes,



David Crunkhurn
Headteacher

