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In our hands we hold the future

I can do all this through Him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13

Address: Church Lane, Hutton, BS24 9SN
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Dear Parents,

Dear parents/Carers

It has been an eventful 2021 and start of term 3 thus far!

You will probably agree with the staff that the start of term seems a lot longer a go than just a week! We have been fortunate to be within a community that have been supportive and understanding of the challenges we have faced this week, following Monday night's u-turn announcement by the Government. We were more fortunate than some school communities, having had a planned inset day on Monday. We have had significantly more requests for critical worker/vulnerable children places than in the previous lockdown, added to the fact that the teachers have started remote learning, so staff are stretched quite thinly.

We will endeavour to support as many families as we can during this time, however we are bound by our COVID health and safety measures in order to ensure the safety of staff and students at all times. Although the information states that it does not suggest schools are no longer safe place for students, you need to have considered the potential risks when using school provision for your critical worker/vulnerable child(ren).

The more pupils in school, the more mixing there is, the more mixing there is, the greater the risk to everyone.

As you know we have already established the work online for the children. It can be found on our website under Pupil Zone. This time during the lockdown our teachers will be leading the online learning - they are not in the classes as they will be managing Teams meetings for the children to join in twice a day, alongside marking the work that the children have sent in and responding to learning queries.

The morning session is for an input session and then the later session for a catch up and feedback session. Children will be expected to attend both sessions wherever that is possible, the earlier session will help them access the right work, the later session to iron out any difficulties they have had. The children in school are accessing the exact same teams meetings and same work. Our aim is that we build on the connection between school and home to reduce the risk of the children losing what they learnt last term.



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The online teams sessions are new to the teachers as well as the children and it has been quite a steep learning curve for the staff to master what they have already. Some of us are only one step ahead of the children on this journey – so if we make some errors in these sessions then please bear with us! We too are learning how to upload documents, how to mute all without muting ourselves and to remember to share the screen!

We have deliberately staggered the teams meetings through the day so that as far as is possible siblings sessions will not clash for the majority of families. Teachers will also respond to emails from parents regarding any queries about the work- please bear with us they can only respond at certain times. If you do come across a problem and you are awaiting support you can always change the order of the work and get your child to do TT rockstars, spelling shed or read whilst they are waiting. Remember that the key skills, reading, writing and maths are the most essential and the hardest ones to catch up. So if you are having technical issues - don't stress about it, get your child to read - remember they can do this more than once a day- the more they practise the more they improve!

The children can access Teams meetings from other devices such as Xbox or playstation. The instructions for how to do this are on our school website under Parent Zone.

Thank you all for your support and kind messages in these trying times.

Please do contact school via the year groups emails or the office email if you have any difficulties and we will see what we can do to support you.

Stay safe,

Luci Amos.

Executive Headteacher



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