May 2020

Dear Parents

This, your last official termly newsletter for P3, is quite different from the one which I had anticipated writing this term. We find ourselves in an unprecedented situation and we are all having to adapt and work in ways which we have not had to do before. Lots of what is contained in this newsletter are things which I have said before in the Google Classroom in my daily update and chat, but I would once again like to thank you for all the work which you are managing to do with your children at home. Despite the fact that most of you are juggling home working with home school and all the logistical and emotional problems that this brings, I am impressed with how much you and your children are managing to do.

As in the physical classroom setting, I am preparing and presenting the 3 daily tasks for the pupils in a variety of ways to try and appeal to and engage learners differing styles. Hopefully the different methods of my teaching videos, instruction and teaching sheets, video links and links for specific games, as well as all the worksheets and activities, should all help go towards trying to recreate a classroom situation. Most tasks are differentiated and you will only see the task appropriate for your child. Some activities will obviously appeal to your child more than others as all pupils are different, but if you feel your child needs more on any day, you can refer to the sheet that Miss Sang and Mrs Muir sent out at the end of last term for ideas and links to more websites.

Mrs Gill has set up a parent tab on the school website so if you click on the ‘parent’ tab you will be able to select ‘Home Learning Links’ from the drop-down menu. This will take you to the school closure letters for all classes and the additional activities and ideas that have been previously emailed out to you all over recent days and weeks. The homework diaries of course have lots of helpful information too, including times tables (which I directed you to before) number squares and 100 most common words list.

Thank you for all the messages, emails and photos that you are sending in. As I am not physically seeing you or your child every day as I used to, it is a wonderful way of keeping in touch. If you are doing the tasks at home with your child and would like to send them back but are finding it tricky to do so, then as a few of you have done, every now and then type up a wee message saying that the tasks are being done and all is well (hopefully!) The Help Sheet which I produced for you is still posted in the Google Classroom too if you need it. However, as I’ve said many times already, please do what is right for you and your family situation. If you are having a bad day for whatever reason, then consider only doing one of the tasks with your child that day or leaving them until a better time. This suggestion seems to have worked for a few families already and it can make for a much happier house so please do not stress about getting everything completed as family health and happiness comes first. Remember that lots of regular activities at home like Lego building, role play and baking (if you can get the flour!) are all extremely valuable for learning.

Finally, as you all know by now, every Friday pupils will have their work posted to them by Miss Sang. Miss Sang has decided to continue working on our class page on Glow, so log in to there on Fridays just as you did before the holidays. Mrs Muir will also continue to work with and support some pupils in our class and as I have done already, I will direct you to her Glow page on the days that she has created a task for your child. This may not be applicable to your child, so do not worry if this does not happen for you.

As you have been doing, feel free to message me or email me to keep in touch or if you have any questions.

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Sending you warm wishes for a happy term ahead.

Keep safe

Gillian Stewart