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MUGGINTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Church Lane, Mugginton  
Weston Underwood, Ashbourne  
Derbyshire DE6 4PL  
Telephone: 01335 360261

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Dear Parents,

Thank you very much for your support during an extremely busy week.

I am sure you have all looked at the blog and seen the superb quality and quantity of work your children have produced. I have been delighted to hear the children's positive responses to the live lessons and we have had contact every day, with every child, which we identified as our first priority when we began to prepare for the shift to online learning.

This week we have worked on a model of two morning lessons for the three groups (Reception/Y1; Middle Group; older Juniors) with the first lesson starting at 9.30am and the second at 11am. Junior children were so positive about the live lessons that we agreed to add an afternoon 'check-in' meeting which started at 1pm. The supplementary learning resources have been posted on the school blog the night before, alongside photographs and videos of the children. Broadly speaking, this, to me, is a good model which will help your child academically and socially during lockdown.

In my opinion, no remote learning system can come close to replicating what we offer on a daily basis in school. Saying this, I am a strong advocate for live lessons in the current circumstances. I have three reasons for this:

- 1) The children need to engage with their teacher and with their friends and it is our job to make this happen. Without regular engagement with and feedback from teachers and friends, I believe the children's motivation to learn will begin to drop as time goes on.
- 2) Without sounding too portentous, we are public servants and need to do what we can to help the public! You are all in a stressful situation, just as we are, and we want to help. In this, our second experience of lockdown, I do not think just uploading several videos and a worksheet to our blog helps you and helps our children as well as live interaction and communication with you and our children does.
- 3) I want staff to be able to teach our children which is a slightly different thing to just setting work to be done at home with you. This can place too great an onus on parents and I believe and hope our input and frequent engagement with the children will offer them a clear structure and stability as well as extra academic support.

I hope you will agree that all staff have thrown themselves into this new situation. They are doing a magnificent job because they care.

Thank you to those of you who have emailed me feedback or who joined our parents' zoom meeting at 11am today. As a result of discussion with staff, discussion with the children and taking into account your feedback, the following is our plan for next week:

- 1) Junior lessons will begin at **9am and 11am, before an afternoon session at 1.30pm.** PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGES. A 9am start allows for parents with a child in both classes to support both children. The move to 1.30pm is to allow you more of a breather for lunch and to get outside before afternoon work.

- 2) Reception/Year1 will have a single live session running from 9.30am - 10.30am. This will alternate between a literacy focus and a maths focus. Mrs Hardwick will be available throughout the day to offer support and additional resources will be accessible from the school blog.
- 3) The Middle Group will continue with a 9.30am live lesson for literacy. The second Maths lesson at 11am will be split into two sessions because there is such a wide range of ages in the group. More information about this will be shared with you before Monday.
- 4) Junior spellings are on the blog ready for a test on Friday. The children will write the words in the back of their books. Please could you mark their test and email me a photo of their test.
- 5) Afternoon activities for the entire school will continue to be uploaded onto the blog. Corrina's Live Music Tuesdays (!) begin next week and Mr Dawson will run some small group maths sessions. Mrs Dennis will begin to run her small group sessions next week too.

Junior parents, please could you check that your child is reading the book we sent them home with? I will ask for an update on how they are progressing next week. If they are not enjoying their book we are happy to exchange it with another. If possible, please could you buy them a copy of Journey to the River Sea? Middle group parents, please could you buy a copy of The Otter Who Wanted to Know by Jill Tomlinson.

I have bought a new subscription to the Times Tables Rockstars website and app. Your child can log in by selecting our school from the list and inputting their first name (with a capital) as the username and also as the password. The only changes are: Archie Tatham (Archie T), Bella Orford (Isabella) and Jack Flynn (Jack F) for both, I think!!!). Please have a look at this app, I know the children have enjoyed using it in the past.

Again, thank you for your support. Please rest assured we are doing everything we can to help you and your children.

Thank you and have a lovely weekend

Joseph Green,  
Headteacher, Mugginton CE Primary School