



Westfield Primary School
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Headteacher:
Miss S Pope

26th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has certainly not been the start to the Spring term that we were anticipating/hoping for. Yet here we are in another lockdown with a move to remote learning and it certainly has been an adjustment!

I write to you as both the Chair of Governors and a parent to extend my thanks and gratitude to all the teachers and staff at school who worked with minimum notice and some technical constraints to set up the online learning for the children at Westfield.

For those of us at home supporting our child(ren) with their learning we certainly recognise the skill, patience and knowledge that our teachers demonstrate every day. They have spent hours putting the lessons together (and continue to do so, adapting as they go) and always do their very best. They are, at times, working outside their comfort zone to record their lessons on video and conduct the live lessons to enable as much remote learning as possible. The planning, preparation and pre-recording are time consuming and I know that most of the staff are working long into the evening to get ready for the next day.

I think you'll agree that the daily live meetings/online teaching does make such a difference to the children – being able to see their teacher and friends is invaluable at the moment.

I must pass on my thanks for the staff that continue to be in school in the midst of this pandemic, supporting those children that need to attend every day. The spirit of the school provision is to provide care/supervision for children whose parents may be critical workers (away from the home). If you are working from home, then as difficult as it may be to work and support your children with remote learning, please consider whether you require an essential place at school. The more children at school the higher the risk. I am working from home myself and I appreciate how difficult it is at this time but the safest place for children to be is at home.

For those of you who are working or have children at home with different ages/abilities you may well ask how you can get the work your children are being set completed every day. The answer is you probably can't but we can only do what we can, continue encourage our children with their reading and try and work with some elements of the home learning that will keep them interested. You are doing enough. The children are safe and you are supporting them through a difficult time. Do not let remote learning become a source of stress. The school make the provision of resources and the framework/structure of the lessons, it is really up to you and your individual situation how you

apply the learning. Some days will be better than other and that is ok. Please do contact your children's teachers if you need support with any of the learning, they will be more than happy to help.

These are difficult times, we are all doing our best to get through it. I wish you all continued good health and hopefully the children will be back in school as soon as it is safe.

Kind Regards

Lynne Farrow
Chair of Governors

