



18th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Since my last email, I am hoping you have had an opportunity to test out the online home learning and ask you to contact your child's class teacher if you or your child had any issues with logging on.

As promised, I would like to give you an update on the following:

- support for the children's emotional well-being
- decisions regarding up and coming events

Supporting children's well being

Today, your child's class teacher led a circle time whereby the attached social story was shared and discussed. Children talked about their feelings which included sad, shocked, confused, worried, upset and cross. The teaching team re-assured the children that all these feelings are okay. The children asked a range of questions which the teaching staff hope they answered sensitively and appropriately, hopefully dispelling some of the myths that are being circulated. The circle time finished with positive top tips, using a video clip from Newsround. There are a number of good short video clips on Newsround which you can access via the following link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/51204456>. Please ensure you watch any video without your child present first to ensure you are happy with the content.

In addition to this circle time, my assemblies over the last few weeks have been focused on the value of the month 'positivity'. I have spent time sharing a book called 'The Energy Bus' which explores the importance of: creating a positive vision; fueling ourselves with positive energy and thoughts; and showing kindness to ourselves and others. The children have been great at giving examples of how to maintain their positive energy and have enjoyed the amusing cartoon clips I have shared that have made us all laugh.

Future events

You will know from the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday that he has advised that people should avoid non-essential contact with others to reduce the transmission of coronavirus. As a result, it is with deep regret that I have made the following decisions:

1. Year 3 school trip to Wisley has been cancelled and I will send further information regarding refunds to parents.
2. The Curriculum Evening for parents (on 26th March) will be postponed. A future date will be set when we know more.
3. Blackbirds class assembly will be postponed with a future date to be set during the summer term.
4. Year 3 & 4 production will be postponed. We were hoping to go ahead with the dress rehearsal today and share a video link securely however, with further child absences, we have had to postpone the dress rehearsal as well. Our aim will be to set a new date for the summer term when we know more.

In addition to the above, G-Live have cancelled their concert on 25th March.

With the situation changing daily, I will not be making any decisions regarding events during the summer term until I have received further advice.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support and kindness; I really feel that our whole school community is pulling together. Please remember, I continue to be available for any of your questions or concerns.

Best wishes,

Karen O'Brien
Head Teacher