



Worplesdon
Primary School

Envis Way, Fairlands,
Worplesdon, Guildford
Surrey, GU3 3NL

18th April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break and found some innovative ways to enjoy your time at home together. It has been wonderful to hear from some of you about the resilience, courage and kindness your children are showing at home – please keep me updated so that I can give your children special recognition in my virtual assemblies.

With assemblies in mind, I will be starting each week with a short assembly that I will share on each year group's google classroom (using the 'stream' section). It would be great if you could encourage your children to watch / listen to it; it is one way of me keeping in touch with the children that I sorely miss. I will continue to upload a short message on a Friday which will include the Golden Leaf announcements.

We are all having to adapt to new ways of working, so I wanted to take the opportunity to say what an **amazing job you're doing** supporting your children's wellbeing and learning during this time. I know that it is not easy doing your day job as well as home-schooling your own children; I know my own children (Jack & Harry) would much prefer to be taught by their own teachers rather than me!

Whilst we would love to get back to normal, it is vital that we continue to follow the government's guidance to keep everyone in our community safe. So, we continue to be closed except for those children of critical workers and those children identified with additional needs. For these families, we ask you to keep us updated on your child's attendance so that we have the correct number of staff present. The school day continues to be 8.50am-3.15pm.

Whether in school or at home, the children are accessing their learning through our Goggle Classroom. Staff have worked hard to continue to develop activities so that they can be completed either online or on paper which can be photographed and uploaded. Teachers and teaching assistants in each class aim to provide timely feedback to each child so that they remain motivated. In an ideal world, it is great if work is completed and uploaded on the day set so that the teaching team can manage their own workload however, we understand that this can be difficult due to your own personal circumstances and work may be uploaded the following day. Please can I ask you to respect the workload of my staff and avoid uploading work for the whole week on Friday as this can lead to staff having to give feedback on 20 pieces of work (per child) in a very short period of time; it also defeats the aim of feedback being motivational.

The most important thing at this time is the emotional well-being of your family so please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, a senior leader, Mrs Ireland (Home School Link Worker) or myself if you have any concerns about helping your children learn or you need any other support from the school. We will get through this strange and challenging time together.

Just because we're not all in the same building, doesn't mean we can't have some fun together! **The staff have created a little surprise video for the school community** which will be uploaded onto the stream section of your child's google classroom on Sunday 19th April (late afternoon). I would like to thank Mrs Lowes for leading on this and putting it all together.

I can't say yet when we'll be able to open the school fully, but rest assured that we'll continue doing our utmost to keep your child learning and our school community connected.

Wishing you much strength for the term ahead.

Take care & best wishes,

Kareen O'Brien

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