



Whitstable Junior School

Oxford Street, Whitstable, Kent, CT5 1DB

Tel: (01227) 272385

Headteacher: Mrs. Annie Knoupe BA (Hons) PGCE

e-mail: manager@whitstable-junior.kent.sch.uk

Friday 8th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Remote Learning at WJS

Many thanks to the whole school community, and I mean everyone, (children, staff, parents, carers and relatives) who have worked so hard this week to move from learning in school to learning at home.

I wanted to take the opportunity to give some more details on what the remote learning will look like from next week. At the end of Summer Term I asked all parents and carers what their thoughts were on the home learning experience we provided through Google Classrooms. The overwhelming response was that you were very satisfied with it and that feeling has certainly been mirrored when we had to move to using this due to bubble closure last term.

One thing you thought the children would benefit from was more opportunities for the children to interact with their teachers. We absolutely agree with you on this and have decided that the best way to do this is for teachers to have Live Zoom sessions with the children twice daily. The first live session will be around 9am in the morning. The Zoom invite will be posted in the Google Classroom and by allowing your child to access this you are giving your consent. This session will also be recorded so that children who are unable to access it at 9am can see what the teacher was saying about the learning for that day at a time that suits them. We have also emailed a Live Session Protocol Sheet which we would like you to read before your child takes part in the Live Zoom Meeting. Children in school will receive a paper copy of this next week for you to sign giving consent for them to take part.

The second session will take place between 2:45pm and 3:30pm each day, depending on the class teacher. This Live Zoom Session will be a chance for the children to listen to the teacher read, (something we are passionate about), and have a general chat about the day and the learning. This will also be recorded and uploaded to the Google Classroom so it can be watched at another time.

The lessons themselves will not be live as the feedback we had from parents was that this made home-learning very difficult for a number of reasons. We have introduced the use of recorded lessons which we did not use last time which we think will support the children with their learning and best meets the needs of our school community.

We have also added a Well-Being Room-The Nest to the Google Classrooms and we will be telling you more about this early next week. Here the children will be able to Live Zoom the Well-Being Team and access resources to support their well-being.

For those families who have requested paper packs because that is your preference please remember your children can still join in the Live Zoom sessions through Google Classrooms whenever you choose.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Warm wishes,
Annie Knoupe
Headteacher

