

FARNBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Farnborough Hill, Farnborough, Orpington, Kent BR6 7EQ

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Miss A James BA PGCE Head Teacher
Mrs C Browne B.Ed Hons Head of School

8 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers.

Firstly, may I say the hugest well done to all of you for getting through to the end of week one of home learning! I know it has been tricky and very different from how things were done in the previous Lockdown. As I am sure many of you are aware, the government has stated that we must offer live teaching during this Lockdown. I appreciate that the logistics of this will have been very challenging for you, but I have to say that from the samples of work that your children have uploaded, both you and them have done an incredible job!

A huge well done to the children too. Yet another Lockdown, will not have been easy for our children, but the way in which they have risen to the new systems in place for their learning has been absolutely magnificent. The children that have been in the lessons have been really engaged and focussed. The maturity they have shown has been very impressive.

I know that for many of you, home learning has probably been logistically very difficult to organise, but please could we remind all parents to ensure that devices are muted during lessons unless the children are asked to speak. May we also ask that you remind the children to only 'chat' about things that the teacher has asked them to.

On Tuesday next week, we will have packs ready for each child containing exercise books and writing implements. We will have class boxes with the packs ready and will send a message out on Monday to let families know what time to come and collect packs for their children should they require the resources. This will be organised alphabetically throughout the day, so if you have more than one child at the school, you can collect their packs at the same time.

From next we we will also be offering the children optional homework. If you are able to do this then that is great, however if this adds to any pressure you are already facing with home learning then please do not feel your child/ren have to participate.

In many ways, this Lockdown will be so much harder on us all and our children, but please remember that we are always here if you need anything at all. Keeping in contact and feeling connected to each other will be so important for all of our mental health at this time. So if you need anything at all, or feel anxious or concerned about anything, please email or phone the school. We will always do our best to help! To ensure we still have some contact with you, we will be starting our virtual coffee mornings again from next week on Thursday morning, at 10.00am. These are to chat about any queries or concerns regarding school or a forum whereby we can still just say 'hello' to each to each other. These are open to all parents and carers and will be held by myself or Mrs Jones. If you are interested in attending, please email the admin.office address and we will send you the login details next Wednesday. Achievement assemblies will resume next week on Thursday afternoons; these will open for all families to attend and will be in the same format as the last lockdown.

And lastly, please do not pressure on yourselves for things to be 'perfect' during this lockdown. We completely understand that working from home and managing the online learning timetable with Primary age children is so so difficult. Lessons can be done during times of the day that suit your lives and you are now able to record the lessons if this suits your household better. Take time for yourselves and your



Teaching & Leadership



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mental health, try and enjoy the long, cold muddy walks and bike rides, with the knowledge that by late Spring we should have some normality back.

Take care of yourselves and your families and we hope to see you all very very soon.

Best Wishes, Miss James

