

The FenHil News

‘Respect, Honesty, Kindness and Collaboration’

27th March 2020

Website: www.fenstanton-hilton.eschools.co.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the very first newsletter that will reach you during our school's closure. I hope you are enjoying the remote learning that your children are receiving. The teachers are working hard to provide regular updates for everyone. I know that this can sometimes feel overwhelming and anxiety inducing as you take over the education of your children. Please do not feel that you have to 'teach' your children. You can provide support with the activities that the school are setting but please do not feel that you have to teach them concepts. This is a worrying time for all of us so if you feel that you need to prioritise your children's happiness and everyone feeling settled at home then do this. The children can send a message to their teacher via Google Classroom if they are unsure or do not understand something.

This week, letters came out from the Government to some people, advising them to remain inside for 12 weeks due to underlying or specific health issues. If one of your children has received this, please could you let me know? Similarly if anyone else in your household has received one and you would like to let me know then please do via my email address.

A few parents have made use of the emergency childcare that we are providing in school. We have a rota in place where two members of staff are on site with the children and specific cleaning activities happen throughout the day to keep everyone safe. Whilst I maintain that children are safest when looked after in their own home, if this absolutely cannot happen then please contact me directly via my email address (listed lower down in the newsletter)

The teachers and I met this week via a Google 'chat' and I have had a 'Zoom' meeting with two of the Governors too. It is very strange having to run a school remotely but has made us interact more and catch up with each other frequently.

You may also receive a phonecall from me or another member of staff to check on your child's wellbeing over the next few weeks. If you see the school number come up on you mobile then please do answer it.

We do have some plans for fun things you and your families can take part in over the coming weeks to keep isolation somewhat pleasant. Watch out for these on Google and in this newsletter. I also plan to release some 'assembly' videos to help your family feel more part of school and take some time to reflect. My technical support (Mr. Worth) will be helping me with these.

Our last week in school was so busy and rushed that some children may feel sad about potentially not getting an end of term. Our Year 6s will probably be feeling this more than most. We would like to still plan some sort of leaving party for them, when it is safe to be altogether again. We are also still investigating 'Leaver's Hoodies' which we had started sourcing before we had to close the school. I will be in touch with Year 6 parents in the coming weeks to make sure the children know that we still want to give them the sendoff that they deserve and sadly did not get.

Finally, if you would like to secure a place for your child in school and have already spoken to me or had contact from the Office regarding this then please email me directly. Similarly, if you now do not need the place then please let me know.

Please email me on: head@fenstanton.cambs.sch.uk

The school office is unmanned at the moment so you will not be able to ring in. If you get a phonecall, it will usually be from me or another member of staff checking on your child's wellbeing.

Stay safe and look after yourselves, you know where I am if you need me.

Best wishes,

Claire Worth, Headteacher