



Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we have all heard the sad news that school closures and remote learning from home are to continue until the 8<sup>th</sup> March at the earliest. Like you we are all extremely disappointed to learn that it will be such a long time before we can welcome everyone back. The staff are really missing seeing all the children and helping them learn. Children really enjoy school and will be missing the camaraderie of being with their friends. We look forward to the situation with Coronavirus improving soon.

We hope that within our immediate school community everyone is staying safe and well. You are in our thoughts if you or anyone in your family is suffering from the virus.

### **At Full Capacity at School!**

Following the news of the delayed re-opening of schools, we have had several enquiries about whether or not we could take further children back into their classes. Sadly, we regret this just isn't possible. We are now at **full capacity!** Regrettably this also applies even if you now feel you are a key worker.

As you are aware, our school buildings are very limited and our classrooms are small. In order to facilitate social distancing between pupils, and to ensure 2 metre social distancing between adults, every class is now full. We currently have a third of our pupils in school under the relevant criteria and can admit **no more**.

Please remember that your children are safer at home with you. Every person who comes into our school brings another opportunity to spread the virus and, as you will be aware from the daily news updates, this virus is deadly! We will be offering continuation of our excellent 'Catch-Up' programme when schools are able to re-admit all pupils.

If anyone, who already has a place in school, feels their child would be better at home then please do change your status and keep them there with you. Perhaps your circumstances have changed? Should anyone become a 'front line' worker and be in need of childcare, let us know and we will enquire about available places in other local schools.

Please note the school is definitely closing for **all** pupils during the half term and Easter holidays.

### **Reception Learn About People Who Help Us**



Dr Mehta kindly gave a talk to Reception about her job as a doctor as part of the People Who Help Us topic. She talked to the children about her role, the equipment she uses and gave a demonstration on her dolly.

It was lovely that this talk was accessible to both the children learning remotely from home and the children here at school. Thank you for the lovely talk and we'd love to hear from any other parents who could talk about the helpful jobs that they do.

## Snowy Weather

There was great excitement amongst the children earlier this week to see the snow falling and to find a blanket of white everywhere. Snow can look very beautiful and particularly so in Fulmer Village. We would like to say a big thank you to the families who sent us pictures of their children having fun in the snow and of some rather spectacular snowmen (and snow cats!)



There are some amazing creations from staff and children which have been so lovely to see! Well done everyone! Very creative!

## Year 2 Science

This week pupils in Year 2 have been asked to look at animal habitats. Following online learning from the Oaks Academy children have been encouraged to make bug hotels in their gardens. This is one made in school with Mrs Walker yesterday. We are wondering which little creatures might come to stay! Anyone who has made a bug hotel at home, please do send photos to Mrs Maddell.



## Online Learning Moves onto Microsoft Teams

Many of you will be aware that we have experienced some difficulties in delivering online sessions successfully and have found, when using Zoom, that we can only have one class operating at a time. We are pleased to tell you we have now been able to purchase a new learning platform. From Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February we will be moving to Microsoft Teams for some aspects of our remote education offer for Years 1 & 2.

Information regarding access to Microsoft Teams was sent out to all Year 1 & 2 parents via email this week. Each child has their own personal log on so please ensure you know this. Contact the school office if you have not received these details.

Please see below for a summary of what is available for each class. Please note the provision is not the same for each class, it reflects what is appropriate for the age and learning needs of the pupils.

Teachers from each class have sent out emails today with further details so please look out for them.

<b><u>Year R :</u></b>	Mon - Thursday	9:00am – 9:15am	Registration and Phonics <b>On Zoom</b>
	Mon – Wed groups	10:00am – 10:15am	One session per week in groups <b>On Zoom</b>
	Mon – Wed groups	11:00am – 11:15am	One session per week in groups <b>On Zoom</b>
	Mon – Thursday	2.30pm – 2.40pm	Story Time <b>On Zoom</b>
<b><u>Year 1:</u></b>	Each Monday morning	9:30 – 9:40am	Overview of the week's activities <b>On Microsoft Teams</b>
	Thursdays.	2:45 – 3:00pm	Story Time with Mrs Dowsing <b>On Zoom</b>
	Fridays	Choose your time	Individual parent and child sessions <b>On School Cloud</b>
<b><u>Year 2:</u></b>	Every day except Tuesdays	9:45 – 10:00	Morning register and explanation of day <b>On Microsoft Teams</b>
	Every day except Tuesdays	1:15 – 1:30	Story time with Mrs Mardell <b>On Microsoft Teams</b>
	Tuesdays	1:15 – 1:30	Story Time with Mrs Hunt <b>On Zoom</b>

## Diary Dates



Lockdown school closure is in place until at least Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March and we await further information about how we will be re-opening to all pupils.

Half-term is Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021

End of Spring Term is Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

## And Finally.....

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the tremendous support you have shown us to date this term. These are very challenging times and we recognize the difficulties many of you are facing in delivering home tuition. Thank you so much for your wonderful endeavors and amazing commitment. We have been delighted to see your pictures, children's work and to meet with you on Zoom and iCloud. We so look forward to March and are keeping our fingers crossed for a safe return to school.

With our very best wishes,

Mrs Cathy Hunt and Mrs Tracey Dowsing  
Co- Headteachers

