



Message from Mrs Ballinger

Today I write to you as a mother. Week 4 of lockdown has been tough. Hearing the news that schools are not going to re-open until 8th March at the earliest, I know, has put a real strain on us all.

This lockdown feels very different and much harder than the first one with the dark, cold, wet weather and the incredibly heightened expectations for remote education. Schools have been directed by the government to set a minimum of 3 hours remote learning each day for children in KS1 and 4 hours for those in KS2. However, I know too well how difficult juggling a full time job, children learning from home and surviving life in general during this pandemic is and so I want to say thank you and well done. Well done for surviving a pandemic! Whatever your personal circumstances, we think you're doing an amazing job.

We have high expectations at Greysbrooke and we know we set a lot of work but all we ask is that you do your best. We know that every family has different challenges and so we are aware that for some of you 30 minutes of reading and a few games on times tables rock stars may be all you can manage some days. We know that some children will find it really difficult to be motivated and engaged each day in their learning at home as they are unable to concentrate online in the same way as they would in class. Likewise, we know that there are some children who will be excitedly logging on every day to complete everything that has been set. However you chose to tackle remote learning, it's got to work for you and your family and we fully appreciate and understand that.

We may be 'closed' to the majority of pupils but please know we are still here emotionally and virtually for all of our families. If you need support or a chat, you just have to ask, we are here. Be sure to take care and stay safe and remember we think you are all doing an amazing job!

**KEEP
IN TOUCH
AND
SEE YOU
SOON!**



Expectations for Google MEET sessions

In order to get the most out of our Google MEET sessions, please ensure that children follow these expectations at all times when taking part:

- Mute on entry to meeting and only unmute when asked
- Sit somewhere quiet so that you are not distracted
- Camera to be switched on - we want to see your lovely faces!
- Please dress appropriately (no hats/no hoods up/no masks to be worn - we want to see you!)
- Be brave by joining in and use the raise hand function to speak/answer questions/make a contribution
- Do not use the chat message facility whilst in a meeting unless asked
- Be focussed by sitting and looking at the camera and listening to instructions
- Be confident to ask questions if you are unsure or want something explaining again (use the raise hand function if you wish to speak)
- Be engaged by asking questions and joining in discussions - do not use a mobile phone during MEET sessions
- Be respectful of others by listening and paying attention when they are speaking
- Do not photograph or video the MEET screen
- Enjoy connecting with your friends and teaching staff
- Leave the meet promptly when instructed by member of staff



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