

Ref: RV/hw

4 May 2020

Dear Parents

I hope that you and your families are well and are coping with the stresses and difficulties that lockdown can present.

Expected Work from Pupils

Our teachers are working hard to continue to support your child in their learning. However, we have had a small number of parents contact us in the last week saying that their child was becoming anxious about home learning.

As I said in last week's letter you are the parent, you know your child best and understand what is in their best interest. **Have the confidence to decide when they have had enough. Their well-being takes precedent over finishing the work.** It is important for children to continue to learn using Show My Homework each day but no child should be doing more than is good for them. You know your child best, but as a general guide, no more than four hours on each school day. It is good for the children to maintain the daily routine of learning. It is just as, if not more important for them to do something that they enjoy, to do a little exercise and to spend some time relaxing. Encourage them to keep in touch with our school Twitter page on the school website. It is full of great ideas regarding activities and well-being tips and is a great way of feeling connected to our school community.

Use of Zoom

Due to recent reports which raise concerns regarding safe-guarding, the school will no longer be using the Zoom platform for meetings or pupil interaction. Individual teachers will be using other more secure platforms from now on.

Instagram Awareness for parents

Over the last few weeks there have been some safeguarding issues concerning pupils and Instagram.

Some pupils have not made their account private and as a result, strangers have been making contact with them. Pupils have been unaware of the dangers they were inviting in.

While Instagram is a fun way to share and exchange images and messages, people you probably would not want your child to engage with or have them respond to your child's posts are actively seeking out and targeting children.

We ask that you check your child's account to ensure that they are safe.

Instagram Accounts

Choose who sees your posts with a private account. By default, each Instagram account is visible to the entire community. Switching to a private account allows you to control who sees your content. With a private account, you can also remove followers without blocking them.

Setting your account to private is simple – navigate to the "Settings" gear from your profile page, and toggle "Private Account" to the "on" position.

From there, you will need to approve every follow request moving forward.

Block anyone you do not want to see your posts, or simply do not allow them to follow you.

Please refer to Instagram's website for more detailed information.

You can use this information for other social media sites as well such as Tik Tok.

#Help us to keep your children safe.

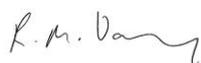
Prize Draw

We know our pupils have been working extremely hard and we have seen lots of excellent work being submitted. We want to continue to reward our pupils for their fantastic efforts and positive attitudes. With this in mind our teachers will be nominating their top pupils from each class. The pupils with the most nominations will be announced weekly on our Twitter page, in addition all parents of children who have had a nomination will receive a text message to congratulate them. They will also be entered into a weekly prize draw for Amazon vouchers.

Correspondence from Staff

If you feel that you are receiving too much email communication from your child's teachers, please can you contact your child's Year Leader.

Yours sincerely



Richard Varey
Headteacher