

Water Primary School

Happiness, Health & Opportunity

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Dear families

Please can I start this letter by saying how incredibly proud I am of all of you. We are living in extraordinary times, which require extraordinary heroes. You are all heroes and I can't thank you enough for all your efforts, support and encouragement. I know myself how difficult home learning is. It is tough, it is tough balancing learning, work and everyday routines. I just want to reiterate my view and opinion regarding the requirements for home learning, a view which may over time become misconstrued and misunderstood and I don't want this to happen. This view and opinion has been the same since the start of this pandemic. You, us and everyone can only do their best. You are doing your best, unbelievably so in such trying circumstances.

There is absolutely no pressure to complete every piece of work set, there is absolutely no pressure to attend every zoom, quiz night or PE lesson. Everything we do, is done with support and help in mind. We want to help, hence the number of activities posted, some find this helpful, some may find this overwhelming. Please do not feel overwhelmed and please do not compare yourself to other families. Each family has their own set of unique circumstances, each circumstance will differ from the next. Please do not worry. We will support every family in the best way we can. Do not worry if you have missed zooms, learning or feel that your child is behind because they have missed a Power Maths or Phonics video. It is fine. It is our job to find the gaps in learning and teach the curriculum accordingly when the nation and daily life returns to some sort of normality. Again, this was something we tried to stress during March and April. This remains the case. Please do not worry. Our main concern is keeping connected with you all, to check in with you, to make sure you are all ok, to see if there is anything we can help you with. Those are our main priorities. It is wonderful to see work posted on SeeSaw, to see children smiling on our zooms and to see children engaging with our daily videos and I thank you for doing this but if this comes at the detriment of your mental and physical health, or you finding things difficult then please stop trying to keep up. Take time and prioritise the activities that you complete with your child or children. All I would ask is that you stay in touch, either through work, pictures, videos, zooms or emails. Please don't try to do everything which is set.

My three priorities for my own children during this time include keeping them active, reading, lots of reading and making them smile. Every day, every month is precious, time is precious, memories are precious and our families are precious.

Please remember you are all amazing, you are all heroes and soon things will start to get back to normal. You may have different views regarding the virus, but is real and it is causing untold devastation to families and the population. Yesterday, the grim figure of 100,000 Covid deaths was announced, an absolute horror number. We must continue to follow the stay-at-home message where we can, we must allow the vaccination programme to take its course and hopefully soon we can all return to the normality we all loved and cherished. My view is to see this through and when we do return, let me, the teachers and staff do what we do best, which is to provide your children with the very best education and curriculum. We will find the gaps and we will fill them.

Please don't worry and if you need any help and support then please ask, even if it is for just a five-minute chat. We are here to help and together we can get through this.

Take care
Mr Willan

