



Heather Herald

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Head Teacher: Mrs Maxine Michalowski

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Issue 6 15th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

What an amazing bunch you all are - and by that, I mean everyone - families and the amazing staff who are supporting children's learning either at school or at home.

Over the week we have between, 25-30% of our children who are deemed vulnerable or the children of critical workers either on a part week or full week basis engaging in their learning in school. Those of you at home we have had 90% of the school engaging in most online sessions over the week - which is just phenomenal to have such massive support from all of our families. We are working with the remainder of the families to hopefully get this to 100% next week!

It has been a rollercoaster of a two weeks - yes, it is only two weeks since we have been back! We are continually reviewing what we are delivering to make sure what that it is manageable - so as I have said previously, there will be times where the TEAMS session may not be delivered by your child's teacher as we are trying to find ways to make what we offer more manageable for staff who are well and truly working their socks off. We are trying support families with technological issues (well Mrs Riley-Lowndes is!) and supplying paper copies of the work to those of you who request it - and your patience is appreciated if we are not as prompt as you would like.

Those of you who are supporting your child at home, please can you remind your child that the 'chat' function on TEAMS should mirror the kind of conversations that go on in class - gifs being sent in story time are not appropriate. The TEAMS chat for each session should not really be used after 10 minutes after the lesson has finished and under no circumstances should staff be messaged via the chat function in the evenings or at weekends - we don't have the capacity to monitor the chat beyond the time of the lesson. As I have said before, nothing is that important that it needs to disturb staff's time away from school.

Please remember if you are sending your child into school as you or your partner is a critical worker, that the government guidance now is that parents should keep their children at home if they can. Currently numbers in school are manageable but if staffing numbers fall, we may need to reduce the number of pupils in school.

Thank you for your continued support - the kind messages we have received really do help,

Best wishes,

Maxine Michalowski and all the staff at Heather School.

Key Dates

School closes for half term Friday 12th February 2021

Half term Break

Monday 15th to Friday 19th February 2021

School opens to pupils Monday 22nd February 2021

School closes Friday 26th March 2021

Easter Break

Monday 29th March to Friday 9th April 2021

Summer Term 2021

School opens Monday 12th April 2021

May Day Bank Holiday Monday 3rd May 2021

~~KS 1 Sats take place throughout May* Cancelled~~

~~KS 2 Sats Monday 10th - Thursday 14th May* Cancelled~~

School closes for half term Friday 28th May 2021

Half term Break

Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June 2021

~~Monday 6th June Year 1 Phonic Screen - take place this week Cancelled*~~

~~Monday 6th June 25th June Year 1 Multiplication Check* Cancelled*~~

School Open for Pupils Monday 6th June 2021

School closes for Pupil for the summer break Friday 9th July

Heather Primary INSET 4 - disaggregated staff not in school Monday 12th July 2021

Heather Primary INSET 5- disaggregated staff not in school Tuesday 13th July 2021

***PLEASE DO NOT BOOK HOLIDAYS DURING THESE TIMES**