



South Hiendley Primary School
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3rd February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you are all safe and well. Thank you again for all of your efforts this week with remote learning. Juggling all of the things we are all facing at the moment is really hard. Many of us are working, or trying to work, managing home schooling and also caring for others. And all of this against the very difficult and uncertain backdrop of the pandemic. Please be assured that we all understand how difficult this is. We too are facing these challenges in various ways. Remember, whatever you can do to support home learning is just fine. Sometimes you may not manage to do everything. That is ok. We have enough to worry about without worrying about that too. It is our job to make sure that, once school reopens, we support your child to catch up and fill any gaps that may have opened over this period.

To support all of our families, next week we are holding Mental Health week. We are going to focus all our afternoon lessons on mental and physical wellbeing. This will be both for the children, but also for all the family. We hope that every family is able to join in with this and finds it really useful and supportive.

As part of this, we are holding a 'Dress To Express' day on Friday 12th February. This will involve the children dressing in a way that expresses who they are. This includes both the children in school and those working at home. We're looking forward to seeing the outfits they choose!



Some information to be aware of:

MESSAGE FROM THE TRUST

Mrs Melanie Reed has resigned her position from South Hiendley. Mrs Reed has worked at the school since January 1st 2011. We thank Mrs Reed for all her hard work and wish her well for the future.

ONLINE SESSIONS AND REMOTE LEARNING

We have seen a steady improvement in numbers accessing Teams meetings and Seesaw lessons remotely this week which has been fantastic. Thank you for all of your hard work in helping us to achieve this. With increased attendance to online registers and other sessions, there has been a reduced number of calls that school has needed to make because of the regularity of the contact and communication with children and their families. Below are some key points to remember:

- Try to ensure that children attend their online Teams meeting each morning;
- If you miss the morning register, try to ensure that your children attend a session / lesson later on that day;
- When you are aware that your children will not be able to attend the online register, email or call the school office, explaining why and when they will next be able to attend online;
- Try to avoid days in a row where children do not access their remote learning;

- Try to encourage children to complete at least some of their work tasks and post them on Seesaw for their teacher to see their engagement and hard work.

ALL OF THE ABOVE HELPS TO KEEP SCHOOL INFORMED AND ALLOWS US TO CHECK THAT EVERYONE IS SAFE AND WELL.

ONLINE SESSIONS POLICY AND PROCEDURES

During the course of the week, there has been a number of times where teachers have needed to remind pupils of the rules and procedures regarding online sessions, particularly those that are live. Please can you ensure that your children understand the following and that these procedures are adhered to:

- Pupils should be dressed appropriately for the sessions and be fully clothed when appearing on screen; □ Pupils should up and out of bed when accessing their sessions;
- Pupils should keep cameras and microphones off until advised otherwise by the class teacher;
- Parents / carers should be mindful that when microphones are switched on, they will pick up background noise and conversations which all other attendees will be able to hear – this could include ‘private’ conversations and inappropriate language;
- Pupils should **only** use the chat facility for lesson discussion;
- Pupils do need to turn cameras on when requested as this allows school staff to see if they are safe and well as well as hearing from them.
- If parents/carers have any queries regarding pupil’s work, these should be made in a polite, respectful manner.

Please remember, if you are experiencing difficulty with accessing Teams, there is a parents’ guide on our website with step by step instructions. If you are still struggling, just email SH-Enquiries@ipmat.co.uk and we will try to help.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT ON RETURN TO SCHOOL

As you may have seen in the news, the Prime Minister has said that the Government are hoping to begin reopening schools from the 8th March if possible. Whilst we understand that this is by no means a definite date, it has prompted some further information being released and it does appear that the following can be confirmed at this point:

- Schools will not be expected to remain open for critical workers and vulnerable pupils through the forthcoming holiday, therefore we can confirm that school will be closed as planned at February half-term;
- The FSM voucher scheme will resume after the half-term holidays until schools do re-open;
- During the holidays, the FSM voucher system appears not to be in place. However, the winter funding support offered during the Christmas holidays from Wakefield Local Authority does appear to be in place to support those families that need this;
- After the holidays, until the date when schools are instructed to re-open, school will operate in the same way it is now and those pupils at home will access remote learning in the same way they are currently.

PLEASE NOTE: Monday 22nd February 2021 is no longer an Inset Day, so school will be re-open on this date after February half term to the pupils who are currently attending.

TWITTER

Please take a look at our school Twitter account [@IPMATHiendley](https://twitter.com/IPMATHiendley)

Teachers have been busy tweeting children’s work and it gives you an idea of what everyone’s getting up to, both in school and at home.

Safeguarding

Please be aware of what children are accessing on their devices and monitor their use.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/need-help>

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/primary/>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/> <https://www.papyrus-uk.org/>

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/tiktok/>

Other useful links: <https://parentinfo.org> - resources and guidance for parents on a wealth of subjects

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/> - guidance about popular apps, games and networks children may be accessing

<https://www.starwakefield.org.uk/> - resources and support to help deal with bereavement

<https://www.camhs-resources.co.uk/> - resources to help with mental health and wellbeing

<https://youngminds.org.uk/> - Young Minds

<https://wf-i-can.co.uk/> - Online resources for children and young people in Wakefield with mental health and wellbeing

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/> - NSPCC

<https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk/> - website for safer sleep for babies

www.iconcope.org – website offering support around normal infant crying and how to cope / manage this

Useful Numbers

YOUNG MINDS PARENTS HELPLINE: 0808 8025544

CHILD LINE - Help for adults concerned about a child call us on 0808 800 5000

CHILD LINE - Help for children and young people call Childline on 0800 1111

NHS - For urgent medical help – use the NHS 111 online service, or call 111 if you're unable to get help online.

NHS - For life-threatening emergencies – call 999 for an ambulance.

POLICE – 101 for non-emergencies or 999 in an emergency

REFUGE – Call 0808 2000 247 for support from the National Domestic Abuse Helpline **NORMANTON**

FOOD BANK - 01924 895634 or 07307 189851

Thank you for your continued support during these challenging times.

Keep safe