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Richmond Park School,
Carmarthen



6th January 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

Firstly, let me apologise for the lateness of my letter to you. There has been so much to sort out and many messages from one or two anxious parents to reply to which all takes up a lot of time.

Secondly, I wish to thank TEAM RICHMOND for being proactive as always and absolutely determined to do the very best for your children. It makes my job so much easier with a great team behind me.

So... tomorrow marks the start of the Spring Term 2021 for you and your children albeit in lockdown once again.

- You will have received correspondence by now from Mr Cooper for KS2 and Mrs Peters for FPh with regard to how learning will look and how it will take place. This is a new situation for us too so please bear with us as we adjust and tweak our systems over the next few days. I am sure that as we roll out the timetables and learning opportunities, we will improve them as we see fit. There is a clear expectation from the Welsh Government that children are actively engaged in their learning in this lockdown and therefore we are recording all acts of engagement and non-engagement. Parents will be contacted if children are not engaging in their remote learning. I fully understand how difficult it is to work from home and home-school but we have also listened to how concerned parents are about children falling behind. So, I am sure that we will work together to make the very best of such an awful, global situation.
- The majority of whole school correspondence from me will be via Teachers2Parents but staff will be using **DOJO** so if you have not yet signed up to **DOJO** please do so. Get in touch with me and I will sort it out for you. (*Text with full name of child and class please to 07530 152382.*)
- Health & Safety measures are robust as they have been since June but we maintain the added measures we put in place before Christmas within our Hub which starts tomorrow. These include absolute minimal movement around school, enhanced cleaning of high touch areas and the need for children to have a mask for use in school please.
- **HUB ARRANGEMENTS:**
 - the very few pupils coming to the Hub need to bring a packed lunch please and a mid-morning snack. Those staying on from 3pm to 5.30pm will be offered an afternoon snack with Mrs Nerys Rees-Sherriff and Mrs Heckler who have kindly agreed to run the after-school club part of the Hub for you all week.
 - Water is provided for children in school.



- Children can wear their own clean clothes to school rather than school uniform. Please also ensure they have suitable footwear and a warm coat for outdoor play.
 - No additional toys or stationery are to be brought into school please.
 - **DROP OFF** is at 9am at the usual place please at the bottom of the school pathway in the staff car park .
 - **PICK UP** is at 3pm at the same place as drop off – NOT AT THE BACK PLAYGROUND.
 - **If you are picking up from the After School Club after 3pm then please come up to the main foyer and reception area as the club will be in the Year 1 classroom and not the top of the driveway as usual.**
- **Risk Assessment:** The school will be adhering to the Carmarthenshire County Council Risk Assessment Policy, in conjunction with the Welsh Government Guidance. **It is vital that no child is sent to school if they feel unwell; have any of the three identified COVID-19 symptoms:**
 - a new continuous cough
 - a high temperature or
 - loss of taste or smell;

or if they, or a member of the household, have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days. We will make every effort to mitigate and reduce risks as far as possible within our school setting. The school retains the right to review its provision in line with statutory guidance and make amendments to its Risk Assessment Policy when and where necessary.

I am sure there are things I have not mentioned but please message me directly if there is something I have missed.

Kind regards,

Helen Luff ~ Headteacher

07530 152382