



Abbas and Templecombe
Church of England Primary School
School Lane, Templecombe, Somerset, BA8 0HP
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20th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Parent Update

Let me start by saying "Well done"! Home-schooling is a huge challenge, but we are really impressed with the levels of engagement and quality of work that the children are uploading. It is easy to be hard on yourself during these times but we feel you can all give yourselves a huge pat on the back - you are doing a great job! We are very grateful to you for supporting your children with this.

Miss Hancock and myself have really enjoyed our 'live' meetings this week with Topaz and Ruby classes. It has been amazing seeing all the children and hearing about their activities at home. We are hoping this is also helping the children to engage further with the remote learning.

Miss Wicks, Mrs Cahill and Ms Bishop have also been busy this week uploading teaching videos on to Tapestry together with lots of lovely activities. They really enjoy seeing and hearing what the children are getting up to, so please do keep uploading.

As I mentioned in my last update, teaching staff are available throughout the school day if you or your child needs any help or encouragement with remote learning. We are more than happy to arrange a video or phone call. An outline of our remote learning offer can be found on our website.

The pastoral team have been very busy this week catching up with all the children at home - again they love chatting with your children and hearing about all their experiences. We are hoping to extend this provision in the coming weeks; Mrs Mewett will be offering behaviour support drop-ins via Teams. This will be by invitation so if you feel this is something you would benefit from, please do let us know.

Next week, we will be uploading lessons on online safety. Obviously with the children learning remotely, it does mean that they are online much more than they normally would be, so it is extremely important that they are safe. In addition to this, it is also important they have regular breaks away from technology when they can. Mrs Cahill will be sending some more information on this topic later this week.

Many of you may recognise the name Julie Carr: she is a Templecombe resident who was regularly volunteering in school, crafting with Diamond Class and helping with our after school Gardening Club. Julie is putting together craft packs from recycled materials; these have already been very popular with some members of our school community. Julie has offered to create these packs for free and will deliver them to the school on a Friday when they will be quarantined. There will be a limited number available on a first come, first served basis, one per family, for collection from the school office on a Monday.

Finally, I have some great news to share about Mr Webb. He was released from hospital earlier this week with some answers and most importantly a treatment plan. Mr Webb will be undergoing Cardiac Rehab for the next few months, with a full return to school planned for after the Easter break. He has asked me to let you all know that he really appreciates your 'get well' messages and is looking forward to being back with us.

Once again, please remember we are all here should you need us. I attach a flyer containing details of the Educational Psychology Service (EPS) telephone helpline for parents and carers which you may find useful, together with our updated risk assessment which is also available on our website.

Best wishes,

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MB' with a flourish underneath.

Mrs Brazier
Acting Headteacher