

Friday 15th January 2021

School Newsletter



Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope you and your families are all keeping well. I would like to take this opportunity to share how proud we are of all the children who are working so incredibly hard at home and to also celebrate the dedication of the teachers and children who are still in school. As before, the Greenmount Community has worked in partnership with one another to respond to the fast paced changes of last week and we have achieved so much with your support, in such a short space of time.

Since last Tuesday, we have worked together to transition to remote learning through Google Classroom, adapt teaching and learning in school to respond to updated DFE guidance, supported families who have requested on-site learning for their children, prepared food hampers and distributed laptops where needed. None of this could have been achieved without your support and understanding and the dedication of staff – thank you.

Attendance

We will take registers as normal for all children on site with us each day. Please let us know if your child is unable to attend as this supports us in maintaining our safeguarding and statutory duties. Please let us know if your circumstances change and you no longer require a space for your child. In addition, if your contact details have changed, please inform the office so we can update them for you. We like to hear from all of our families either online or on the telephone. If we do not hear from you, we will telephone you either from the school office, or where some teachers are working remotely, they will make calls from home. This will mean that you may receive a missed call from a withheld number.

We have also been sending out emails and text messages asking parents to contact the school – this is so we can see how you are getting on and to see if we can offer any further support with either Google Classroom (online learning) or whether we can give you a printed pack of work for your child/children.

As you are aware, our staff are coming to work every day to look after your children whilst you are working. It is important that when you are not working that you are all keeping safe and following the requirements of not mixing with other bubbles outside of school. Thank you for what you are doing to keep us safe and our Island safe.

Over the next few weeks, you will receive further details of how we are developing our remote learning package. Already, there have been opportunities to see pre-recorded clips and again, we thank our staff who are working both remotely and in school, responding to the changes quickly and passionately in such a short time.

This morning, during our virtual Celebration Assembly, Year 2 children prepared a news report that was shared so professionally with all classes – well done Year 2, your reporting was clear and precise and everyone listened beautifully to your news. Certificates were given out to all classes with a special mention of our newly named class ‘Hoochline’. The children in Year 1 have been looking at the online work that children in their Year 1 class are completing at home. They have decided that now they are all one big class-working together as a team – such a delight! Children in Year 5 read out their diary accounts – we were so impressed with the rich language used and their use of punctuation in all pieces. Mr Evans is incredibly proud this week. All teachers and staff have shared how impressed they are with all the online work being completed at home – the adventures and new experiences some of you are having and sharing with us here at school. Keep going children (and grown-ups) – we are so proud of you.

On Monday, we will share photographs from the architect who has designed the courtyard – we will make sure we add these to Google Classroom so you can all see at home as well.

The staff at Greenmount have been overwhelmed with the enthusiasm and dedication they have seen on Google Classroom over the last couple of weeks as well as the work completed on paper. Thank you to parents for supporting at home and for contacting us if you need additional suggestions and support from our Teaching Teams, Admin, I.T. and Pastoral Team. Your supportive comments have meant so much and as we move further into this unprecedented period, we endeavour to develop and produce a range of remote learning experiences that are tailored to your needs.

Reporting Covid Cases

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we are required to record details of any children who may test positive for Covid-19, even if they are working remotely at home. Please could you therefore let us know if your child tests positive, even if they have not been attending school in person. Please let us know during school office hours on 01983 561325. This is so we can also offer any additional support or information that might be helpful to you, whilst ensuring that we record the correct attendance code for your child.

If your child has been attending school and tests positive following any self-isolation, please can you let the school know as soon as possible, so that we can undertake any necessary contact tracing, should this be advised. If a positive test result is received at the weekend, then please let us know via the dedicated school out-of-hours mobile number - 07376 258777. Please be aware that this number is for reporting positive cases only and **not for general enquiries**.

I know you will want to share with us in thanking the keyworkers across the Island for all they are doing to support our most vulnerable residents at this time and to ensure the smooth running of essential services. We wish you a safe and happy weekend.

Miss Cox and The Greenmount Team