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Principal: Denham Kite B.Ed. (Hons)

Friday, 29 January 2021

Dear Parents

Friday Update

Another week has ended and the engagement with the children, remotely, has been brilliant. Thank you very much for helping us to figure out new and better ways of providing the work and engaging with the children. I hope last week's Tech Challenge and exploration of Kami has proved beneficial and solved some technical issues you may have been having.

Remote Learning Support and Critical Worker Bookings

When making a booking, please do ensure you are eligible and are not just doing so because you think your child would be better off at school. We want the children back and do think this is the right place for them, but only when the time is right. It was reported to me that some parents are thinking of booking in because it is hard to help them at home. We do understand that but that is not the correct thing to do.

A reminder that we are here to help if we can. Please do fill in the appropriate form for support, bookings etc...

- ▶ Remote Learning support: <u>Click here for any remote learning support.</u>
- Dinner Takeaways: Click here to for a Dinner Takeaway booking.
- ▶ Key Worker Bookings: <u>Click here for key worker bookings.</u>
- Lunch Bookings: <u>Click here to book lunches.</u>

Parent Questionnaire Updates

Our <u>Parent Questionnaire</u> is still available. So far we have had 94 submissions. If you haven't completed it, please do. We also have the <u>external 360 Reviews</u> which allow you to focus on specific areas. I hope this is useful.

Updates on feedback and questions...

<u>Comment:</u> Can the work set on Google classroom be uploaded earlier so that we can have a look at what is planned for the next day?

<u>Response:</u> Work was scheduled to go live at set times to avoid some from trying to complete it all early and without teacher input. I understand that it can be helpful to have a look at the work set the night before. From next week staff will assign the work as soon as it is ready but please only look at this for your information so you can support your child the next day. We will not guarantee that work set will be visible by a set time. This is because staff need to check work completed before setting the next task/s. I hope this helps but we will review it.

Wednesday Afternoon Screen-time

We are very aware that the children are spending a lot of time in front of screens, even if just 10 minutes for each live session and the following time taken to complete the work. Moving forward, Wednesday afternoon will be planned to be screen-free, with work set to be away from a device. There may be a story and required time for small groups where needed, but we hope you appreciate the efforts to not have everything in front of a screen.



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Physical Workout with Mr Jackson

The first physical workout with Mr Jackson started today. We did have an initial issue with the Zoom link but hopefully it will all work smoothly next week. Please feel free to join him.

- Topic: PE4Parents
- Time: Every Friday 10:00 to 10:30
- Join: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89678138015?pwd=TnFGWEl2VGM5Vml1TE00aCttemp0UT09</u>
- Meeting ID: 896 7813 8015
- Passcode: 696303

Tech Challenge

How you can find reading material without instant access to our physical school library? It may be reading is not just using a book. It could be that you go on a reading walk around your house or research on different ways to create reading opportunities. Here are some examples as to what you may find; magazine, comics, manuals, newspapers, travel brochures or even labels!

- 1. Explore what you have around you that you can read which is not a book.
- 2. Create your own reading material using a software of your choice. This could involve creating your own brochure or even your own ebook.
- 3. Explore Apps and ways to get e-books to read can we do this using our library system, <u>https://www.readingcloud.net</u> or is there another great way? The Oxford Owl site is a good, free resource. <u>Click here</u> to explore it. Another could be <u>https://www.getepic.com/</u>.

We are very keen that we ensure our children continue to read and maintain a love for books of all different kinds. If you have ideas of how this could be done whilst we are working remotely, please do let us know.



The Krishna Avanti Podcast and Focus on...

Our latest podcast can now be accessed via the website <u>by clicking here</u>. This week's episode includes an interview with some children about remote learning and how it is going.

This week's Focus on... quiz is over, having had 102 players. You can see the podium <u>by clicking here.</u>

Take care and stay safe.

Mr Kite Principal

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