

26th April 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

I hope that you and your families are in good health and coping with the strain of caring for your children and balancing work during this unprecedented COVID-19 outbreak and school closure. The situation we are in was unimaginable just a few weeks ago and the reality is that it remains complex as families struggle with the loss of their social networks, routines and in some unfortunate instances, bereavement.

The staff and I are working hard to find ways to reduce the impact of the school closure on your children's learning and will do what we can to help ease your worries, anxieties and uncertainties through carefully thought out strategies such as suggested support and relevant resources to help you get the best out of the next few weeks of closure.

With schools closed, parents are looking for ways to keep children entertained as well as continuing their learning. We recognised the need for imaginative creativity to engage your children and have now introduced a new home learning platform, DB Primary Learning, to be initiated as of Monday 27th April.

The DB Primary platform will provide weekly updates, point you towards some exciting and interesting activities for children in EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. These are joined by a daily recommendation for a book, website, artefact or picture and Power Points with teachers' voiceover input to introduce new concepts or lessons. There will also be some support to help parents with phonics, Online Safety advice and lessons to help you to keep your children safe and think critically about online resources and safety. The DB Primary will include regular blogs about Home Schooling, celebration of pupils' exemplary work (also uploaded onto school's website) and open lines of communication between school and parents to stay in touch.

As with any new educational resource, especially with remote learning and use of technology, staff will be anticipating initial challenges or teething problems. We hope that this will be far and in between and all pupils, from Nursery to Year 6 classes, will be able to access this platform successfully and fully to engage and participate with the daily activities set by the teachers.

Teachers and managers will also be considering the necessity of assessments and will be planning for accelerated learning as soon as classrooms return to normal. Over the last few weeks of home learning, teachers would have gained relevant information on what pupils' have covered and achieved, identified learning gaps through formative assessments and work completed at home. Weekly planned activities and assignments are based on the National Curriculum framework with the aim to secure the expected standards of attainment and

progress. In doing so, teachers will be appropriately prepared to hit the ground running with the knowledge of what your children have learnt and attained when they finally return to school.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to seek advice, feedback and support from your child/children's classteacher/s to ensure a smooth learning pathway with the new home learning platform. The staff and I are profoundly thankful and appreciative of your commitment and hardwork to maintain the apparent enthusiasm demonstrated by your children away from school and embarking on this exciting distance learning experience.

I wish that you, your families and loved ones, stay safe and well for the coming term.

Yours sincerely

E Chua

Evelyn Chua