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Headteacher – Mr Richard Kitching

Saturday, 9th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Week beginning 11th January

I hope you are all well.

Thank you so much for all of your support and efforts since last Monday evening. It has been a difficult few days for everyone in our school community but I sincerely wanted to thank you for everything you have done to support the children during the last week. We realise that the Prime Minister's announcement has meant that various last-minute changes and arrangements have had to be made as many of you have had to readjust and juggle work commitments and childcare. We recognise that this is not easy.

It was really lovely to see so many pupils able to log in to the online video school assembly yesterday morning on Microsoft Teams. As I mentioned in my message on Class Dojo, if anyone did struggle to get their child to log on, please let us know and we will sort it out. Similarly, for the small minority of parents and carers that have not received their child's log in details yet for Office 365/ Microsoft Teams yet, please complete and submit the user agreement form on Parentmail that was sent out last week and we will get them out to you.

Next week we will have another Microsoft Teams Assembly at 9.30am on Friday. Both Trent Class and Dove Class have Microsoft Teams live video class briefings already scheduled for Monday morning and Derwent Class will have scheduled Teams meetings in due course. As I said in my letter last week, we will be looking to further develop the use of Microsoft Teams for learning as pupils and staff gain more confident at using the format. No doubt you will all be aware that, unlike many schools, thankfully we did not record any positive cases of Covid-19 at Egginton last term and so we did have to close any of the class bubbles. However, a 'flip side' to this is that we have not yet put our plans for Microsoft Teams into practice. Please bear with us as we develop this approach. Having had a number of online meetings with other Headteachers in the local area, I know many other schools are at a similar stage with this.

Hopefully by now you have managed to view the remote learning tasks set for next week on Class Dojo. There is a mixture of online tasks, links to video learning input, written and practical tasks set here. We recognise that our families are in different situations at the moment with regards to how easy it is to access all of the tasks. However, we believe that within the variety of work that has been set you will be able to find a balance that will suit your schedule and individual circumstances.

Following our home technology survey last week, it is apparent that some of you may be struggling to access a printer. If this is the case, please contact school on Monday and we will make arrangements for you to come and collect the printed work.

Please rest assured that, although staff are supervising and supporting the learning of pupils of critical workers in school, they will also support home learning as much as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact them via the message service on Class Dojo and they will do their best to answer any queries as soon as they can. All of the staff at Egginton have been absolutely fantastic over the last week and I am extremely proud of the way they have adjusted to the situation having received no prior notice of the school closure on Monday evening. They have really appreciated the positive feedback many of you have offered in the last few days.

We have always been proud of the strong and supportive relationships between staff and parents and carers at Egginton. None of us wanted to be in this situation of partial school closure, but, as always, we will continue to work closely with you to do the very best we can for our pupils over the next few weeks.

I hope you have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Richard Kitching

Headteacher

