



# Chase Side Primary School

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**Headteacher: Miss Melanie Scull**

Friday, 29 January 2021

Week Eighteen,

I am very aware that this has been a very difficult week for lots of families, not only are we following the government lockdown guidance during the gloomy winter months and potentially will be doing this for at least a few more weeks to come, but we also have to deal with that late January feeling, credit card bills, diets and trying to maintain new year's resolutions. If you are struggling with your children please let us know, we probably won't be able to support with a return to school and we need to ensure we follow the government guidance but we do have staff on site that can call to speak to the children and we have Rosanna our Place2Be counsellor here on a Wednesday / Thursday and she could give you a supportive call.

It has been another busy week here, staff are now taking Lateral Flow Device tests on a Monday and Thursday evening to test to see if any of us are asymptomatic, watching the video clip and reading the instructions does not prepare you for doing the test yourself in front of a mirror. I feel like I have set up a scientific laboratory in my bathroom.

The Government have asked us to share a document explaining our Remote Learning Offer, it is now on our website and attached to this email.

Since we returned in September our offer (when we have needed to close a bubble) has been daily emails with a range of activities that more than cover the time expected from the Government and at least two live lessons where the teachers are explaining the work for the day and answer any questions that they children may have, as well as checking in to make sure that everyone is okay.

We have been adapting and improving our offer since Year 1 had to trail it in October and we now have live or recorded reading sessions, Spanish sessions, Music sessions, PE/PSHE and some small group booster sessions.

We have offered children laptops on loan to access online learning and investigated ways of getting extra free mobile data or routers (which for some mobile providers has been extended until July). When all of this fails children can access paper packs on a weekly basis.

We know that everyone is trying their hardest at home and lots of families are sending us photographs of the work the children are producing, which we are marking and responding to. We need to make sure that the children are still progressing especially in their writing so as of next week, we will be expecting to receive at least one piece of writing per child (via the class email). This is so that we can provide you with feedback to celebrate that piece of work but also provide you with next steps to help extend and develop your child's learning, as we



would be doing in school. Anyone who is collecting a paper pack will also be asked to return the completed work when they come to collect the next set.

Next week we will be sending out a questionnaire to see how everyone is getting on with our remote learning offer and assess whether there is anything we can currently add to enhance the service we are providing. Of course having all of the children back in school would be much easier and I would be much happier if we could do this but let's hope that we all get some good news for March 8<sup>th</sup>.

Friends of Chase Side with some help from Love your Doorstep will be contacting more families to arrange the collection of more computers. Again this a huge task and we send a big thank you to everyone involved you really are having a positive impact on the lives of our children, not just today but for their future education.

I have a few reminders of things we have already sent you information about this week:

- We are still having food delivered from the Felix project but this is not always every Wednesday so we will message you if it arrives, please remember to bring your shopping bags with you.
- We still have a few laptops available for children to borrow during the lockdown, please contact the office if this is something that would help you out at this difficult time. If you have borrowed a laptop but are still not accessing the remote learning the school will be contacting you next week to check to see what the issue is.

I am aware that we are all under lockdown restrictions but we still need to record the numbers of children who are testing positive for covid or have covid symptoms that are stopping them from accessing remote learning. If your child does have symptoms or tests positive please email [emergencies@chaseside.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:emergencies@chaseside.enfield.sch.uk). This email account is checked over the weekend.

I hope you all had the opportunity to enjoy the snow and make a snowman last weekend. I wonder what this weekend will hold weather wise?

Enjoy your weekend and stay safe.



Miss Melanie Scull  
Headteacher

