Friday 8th January 2021

Dear Parents,

After a very busy week in school and at home, I thought I would write to share my thanks for your positivity and understanding. I have received some lovely messages from families and, although I may not have had time to respond them all individually, I have passed these onto the team and they are very grateful. I have shared some of these comments below;

*‘Thank you to you and all the members at Elburton Primary School. We truly appreciate all that you are doing to support our children!!! You are doing an amazing job!!!!!’*

*‘Just a very quick note to say a massive thank you for all the amazing work you and the team are doing behind the scenes. I almost cried tears of joy when I opened the learning timetables for the boys - so helpful and streamlined, and the work on the VLE is organised really well and uploaded in a way that's really easy to see what we're supposed to do. THANK YOU! I cannot tell you how grateful I am.’*

*‘My girls came in for the first time today and they had a good day and came out so happy. X said that going into school felt like going home, which shows what a great job the staff are doing of welcoming the children and making them feel safe and happy at school.’*

*‘Once again I just wanted to say how excellent the resources and work set for both my children has been especially in such a short timeframe. I also appreciate the speedy replies from staff in response to work the children have completed, this has been so positive and encouraging.’*

**We’re going LIVE!**

We are excited to tell you that on **Wednesday 13th January** we will host our first **LIVE Daily Connection** for every year group. Lessons will continue to be uploaded in the manner which we currently operate for the reasons outlined in my previous correspondence. Each day, your child will be able to link in with their whole year group, see their friends and find out about their daily learning tasks from one of the teachers. Whether your child is at home learning with you, or attending school, they will all be connected in one place at the same time!

We are mindful that there may be siblings in one household, so the KS2 Daily Connection will be at 9am and the EYFS/KS1 at 9.15 am.

You can join the meeting through Microsoft Teams, following the link that will be sent to your email address, which you will have set up for parents evenings in November. If you do not receive the information please email admin.elburton@elburton.plymouth.sch.uk.

You will receive an email with a link to join the LIVE Daily Connection, which you will need to use on a daily basis. A new one will not be generated each day.

To facilitate the LIVE Daily Connection, you will need to ensure you have downloaded the free Microsoft Teams app on your phone or tablet. Alternatively, you can use Teams on your laptop or equivalent via the web browser. It is important to note that the link will not work on mobile phones or tablets without the app. You can also access Microsoft Team on the Playstation or Xbox. Please ensure this is downloaded in advance of the LIVE Daily Connection.

To ensure that the virtual meetings run smoothly, on time, and with minimal technical difficulties, the school ask that you click on the Teams link and login to the virtual meeting room a few minutes before the allocated time. The teacher, when ready, will then admit you to the virtual meeting. At the end of the meeting, the teacher will ask you leave the virtual meeting and will ensure all have done so, before leaving themselves.

**\*Please note that you will not be admitted to the meeting unless you have completed the Remote Learning Code of Conduct consent form. You will receive this shortly.\***

If you have any questions or require technical assistant then please contact the Admin Team in the office on 01752 404489 or email admin.elburton@elburton.plymouth.sch.uk.

Please be aware this is the first time we have operated the system this way, so we would appreciate your constructive feedback and patience.

**Attending School**

The number of children attending school has been rising each day. **Please remember, the safest place for your child to be at the moment is at home.** If eligible, please only send your children to school if you absolutely have to. The learning in school will be exactly the same as the learning at home. The children will watch the videos and access learning in the same way as those at home. There is no benefit with regards to learning for your child to be in school compared to being at home.

**Stepping Stones**

As the guidance from the DfE changed overnight, we will now open Stepping Stones fully from Monday 11th January. The team have been phoning parents today to inform them. If you wish to discuss this further, please contact the admin team at Stepping Stones.

**Lisa Birnie**

I would like to officially welcome Mrs Birnie to the Elburton Primary School community. In her role as SENCO and Assistant Headteacher she has already shown her superb leadership experience when organising and supporting the revised teaching and learning this week.

Thank you once again for your support during an extraordinarily busy week. We will continue to reflect and improve our remote learning as we move forwards to ensure all of the children receive the very highest standard of learning.

Yours faithfully,



Mr Keith Smithers

Acting Headteacher