



Cliddesden Primary School
Headteacher's Newsletter
Spring Term Issue 3
29 January 2021

Dear parents, carers and members of our school community

I hope you managed to enjoy the snow safely last weekend. On Monday our children at school were delighted to find a very crunchy, snowy field to play on!



Schools have once again been in the news this week. On Wednesday our Prime Minister announced that schools would not 're-open' fully until, provisionally, 8 March 2021. While we miss your children, who are not currently in school, and know that they are missing each other and school itself, we agree with this decision and feel it is best for the safety of our whole community. Although children are less at risk from Covid, they can still be infected and transmit it back to family members and of course school staff. The number of children we currently have in school reduces that risk and is manageable.

This current period of lockdown has meant that some parents are, quite naturally, worrying about their child and their progress. We do understand your frustrations and know it is hard to keep pupils motivated and this doesn't get any easier. Having two children myself, I am experiencing these challenges too and know that many of the normal family activities are impossible at the moment.

Remember you are all doing a brilliant job with home-schooling. It is important to remember that there will be days when it is tough going - to be honest teachers find the same. Their workload with remote learning and teaching the children who are in school is very demanding. Please be patient with them and do not expect the work for the following day to be listed and ready to print until the day it is scheduled for.

Please try not to worry when you hear the phrase 'falling behind' used by the media and others. Pupils of all ages around the country are in the same boat and, like all schools, we will do our very best for them. Children are resilient and they will bounce back - and remember the current situation will pass. Right now, we are all just doing the best we can and we are in this together.

We were informed by the DfE this week that half term will go ahead as usual. This means the school will be closed to everybody and we will not be setting any remote learning during the week beginning 15th February 2021. There will be a fun parent/child project you can engage in; about which I will send details very soon. Remote Learning and school open to children of critical workers and those deemed vulnerable will commence on 22nd February 2021.

I apologise for the delay in getting the achievement certificates out to children. They have now all been posted including the children who were awarded them today. I very much enjoy my remote assemblies and story times. It is a joy to see the children's faces!

Keep positive everyone and keep safe.

Kenneth Davies
Headteacher