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"part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership"

Longvernal Newsletter January 14th 2021.

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you are managing to stay well during these difficult times. Every home situation is different but I know that each and every one of you is facing a challenge on a daily basis currently.

I just wanted to thank you all for your tremendous support and understanding. Your kind messages, decisions and behaviours around trying to keep everyone safe are really appreciated. The way in which nearly 100% of the school has fully engaged with the remote learning has been truly impressive and I'd like to take this opportunity to say that you are doing a fantastic job, even though it may not feel like it sometimes. To those of you whose children are attending school under the government criteria, thank you for adhering to the timings and also for ensuring that your child is still doing the remote learning on the days they are not in school as we do not have the capacity staffing-wise to 'catch up' on lost days owing to teachers trying to keep on supporting those learning at home.

It is our intention to try and touch base with all families whose children are not attending school by telephone on a roughly fortnightly basis. That said, do not hesitate to contact us if you have a concern or if you need some help. Some parents have been in contact to offer support to others in the Longvernal community who may be in a difficult situation e.g. no transport/feelings of isolation etc so please do ask as we may be able to access support through both informal means or agencies.

We shall be filming a weekly Celebration Assembly and sharing this with you via Twitter, email and on the website in the 'Celebrations and Awards' area. Realistically, we cannot do the Values or Vocabulary Super Star Award but we shall continue with Headteacher Award and birthdays. Each teacher has put their 'Topic Web' outline curriculum on their class page. This provides a reference point for you if you are wanting to do any additional Art projects/Science activities etc related to these

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Helping others at this time:

You will have received a GroupCall about a scheme to re-distribute old laptops. Please deliver any laptops you wish to donate to school, following the directions on the link <u>https://digilocal.org.uk/laptop-donations/</u> by Friday 22nd January.

Over the last couple of years, we have built up a relationship to support Julian House in Bath, a homelessness charity. They have taken assemblies to explain the issues around homelessness to build understanding and discourage prejudice. Some of our families in recent years have participated in their 'Sleep Out' event. Please find below information from Julian House about this year's event:

Help people experiencing homelessness and sign up to join **Julian House's Big Bath Sleep-Out: At Home** happening on Friday 5th March. This year, Julian House is challenging you to sleep outside in your garden with your family for one night. In order to raise money to help people experiencing homelessness you could ask your friends and family to sponsor you. The money you raise will help provide a safe shelter for people who don't have a home and are forced to sleep outside every night. For more information and to sign up visit: <u>http://www.bigbathsleepout.co.uk/</u>

Once again, a huge **THANK YOU for everything you are doing to** support your child.

Stay safe

Karen

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