

27<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## A Brave New World

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well that's 5 whole days done - well done one and all! I have calculated that we have 94% of children actively engaging with school in some way – which is fantastic. Not as good as I would like but still phenomenal in week 1! I am sure this is down to the quality of support and communication you are getting from the teaching team – and I thank them for all their efforts. I know that some you have more challenges with regards to access to technology and if you let us know we will try to work with you to find solutions.

Some of you will have got really into the swing of the home learning already – others of you may be finding it a bit trickier! I thought you might like to see this message I received from one of our TAs.

In terms of what we're finding works at home, I've got two very different styles of learning going on personally here and for X, the learning aspect isn't going particularly well but because of that I've adapted my mindset for this week at least and am just aiming for "industrious isolation" or "constructive confinement" is another term I've heard!

These are a few of the things we're trying with varying degrees of success but they may suit others! Whole family PE session with Joe Wicks

Mindful Colouring

15 mins Daily reading - I'd planned for this to be done collectively after lunch but they prefer to decide individually when to do this!

Watching Blue Planet

Free choices chart - things that hX can do instead of set school work during the "school day" -

No screens - TV, phones etc in school time but encouraging daily facetime check in's with friends after school time Lots of outdoor time

Low demands, lots of choice!

Making packed lunches as normal in the morning reduces unsolicited raiding of fridge and cupboard throughout the day!

Nothing revolutionary, except maybe the last one which has been a game changer!

Flexibility is the name of the game! We're trying to get the balance right between giving you enough materials and ideas to be getting on with, without overloading you. We will get better at this over time if you keep giving us feedback.

We would like to hear from each and every child, preferably every day, but at least once a week so that we know you are OK.

Above all we want you all to stay safe and stay well. Please follow the social distancing guidelines strictly so that we can play our part in reducing the risk of infection in our locality.

And above all – keep smiling Best wishes

Sarah Lewis











