



# Downs Barn Extra

## January 2021

### COVID-19 Update

Thank you to everyone for keeping us updated when children or parents have test positive for Coronavirus—it helps us to keep up to date with the welfare of all our families (and we have to inform the Department for Education too).

All members of staff now have home COVID-19 test kits, which means we can all test ourselves twice a week. So far, this hasn't identified any asymptomatic cases in staff, but it is reassuring to know that any such cases would be identified from now on.

### Class Dojo

I just wanted to let you know how grateful we are for all the home learning that our pupils are currently doing. We appreciate how difficult it must be to juggle work and home tasks on top of helping your children with the activities that we put on Class Dojo.

The Government expectation is for us to provide **four** hours of Remote Learning every day, so teachers have been working very hard to provide this (whilst also taking it in turns to be in school to teach the children we have in school at the moment). The important thing for you to remember is that we are here if you need any support with learning, or well-being, so please contact us if you have any worries and please balance the work that the children do with time outside and time as a family. Mental health is always the top priority, so please take care of yourselves (and let us know if your child isn't feeling well, so isn't doing Remote Learning at any point). Don't forget Mr Pretorius' weekly exercise challenge too!

**Next Wednesday (3rd February) we are planning a whole school non-screen day, with ideas to keep children active, engaged and still learning, but without having to sit in front of the screen all day. We hope you enjoy it!**

Now that we know that schools won't open again fully until at least 8th March, we will keep on providing the Remote Learning for children every week (except for half term which is from 15th to 19th February).

Please remember that you can come and collect a new exercise book if your child's book is getting full. You may also come into school on Monday or Tuesday if you would like to collect a reading book for your child to have at home—just come to the office at the front of school.

### Termly Learning Conversations

TLCs (when teachers talk to you about your child's progress in learning, will take place after half term—we'll let you know the date nearer the time.

### PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE SAFEGUARDING DANGERS OF OMEGLE

Omegle is a free online chat website that allows users to socialise with others without the need to register. The service randomly pairs users in one-on-one chat sessions where they chat anonymously using the names "You" and "Stranger" or "Stranger 1" and "Stranger 2" Users have to use webcams, so their image can be seen by complete strangers.

**Please make sure your child does not use this website, as they may be at risk.**

