



COLD HARBOUR
C of E Primary School

GROWING, LEARNING, ACHIEVING TOGETHER

Highland Close, Bletchley, Milton Keynes, MK3 7PD. Telephone: (01908) 270377

Executive Headteacher: Claire Britnell B.Ed (Hons)

Email: office@coldharbour.milton-keynes.sch.uk

5th February, 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well we are now approaching the last week of this half term and what a challenging one it has been for everyone. It feels a bit like 'lockdown fatigue' is settling in and I am sure everyone is ready for the half term break so that we can step away from the laptops for a little while. Spending the majority of the time staring at 4 walls can be draining so please make sure that you look after your mental health. We have been discussing mental health with our children this week but if you find yourself struggling as an adult, you can find some great resources here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/mental-health-helplines/>

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus/>

Just to confirm school will close as usual over February half-term for all children. Cold Harbour will reopen on Monday 22nd February for the Key Worker and vulnerable children who are currently attending.

Home learning

A reminder that children in FS/KS1 should be accessing around 3 hours learning per day with KS2 children accessing around 4 hours per day including activities like PE, Art and Music. If your child says that they finished in 20 minutes, it might be wise to check! Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns but although we are all tired, it's important to keep the momentum with your child's learning. I know it's not easy but you're doing a great job!

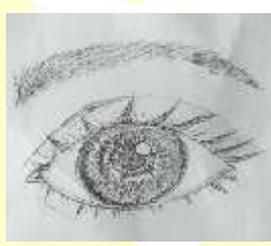
Numbers in school

We are now finding that we have greater numbers of parents requesting a place in school. Whilst we are making every effort we can to accommodate these requests for key workers and vulnerable children, it does take a bit of planning to ensure that we have adequate staffing in place so they may not be able to start straight away.

Having greater numbers in school also means that as we are having to bring teachers back into school, they may not be able to respond to children's work or parent messages as quickly as they did in the first month of this lockdown. Teaching children at home as well in school at the same time is a bit of a logistical challenge so we thank you for your understanding and patience. Again, please speak to your child's teacher if you have any concerns.

Fantastic learning on and off line

We need to say a huge 'Well done' to all our children for the fantastic work we can see them doing both in school and at home. Here are a few examples of the amazing high standard being achieved.



Friday 'Headteachers Challenge'

We have really enjoyed seeing your photographs from last week's challenge and hope you had fun too.



Harry Potter

This week's challenge has a Harry Potter link to watch out for – have fun!

Free online safety webinars delivered by the NSPCC

We regularly share with the children the importance of staying safe online and we teach specific rules and guidance as part of the curriculum across the school. However, with the additional online time the children might be having as a result of lockdown, it is now more important than ever to talk to your child about staying safe online and the apps and sites they are using. The NSPCC have a wealth of advice on this website and are offering free online safety webinars for parents and carers.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

The **Fortnite** gaming craze has certainly taken off and we are aware that many children across the school are playing it, particularly now they have more time at home. If you want to know more about what it is and to learn some top tips for making sure that your children are gaming responsibly, please read the following leaflet: [Fortnite-Battle-Royale-Parents-Guide](#)

Covid-19 testing during the half term break

Please could you continue to advise the school if you or any of your household members have a Covid-19 test during half term (or at any other time). We should be informed of every test as we are monitoring instances within our school community. These results are stored securely and are used for statistical purposes. Please send your NHS results to us at office@coldharbour.milton-keynes.sch.uk Thank you for your continued support.

I hope that you all enjoy a lovely weekend! - we might even get enough snow to build a snowman!

Claire