



Week ending 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Lockdown news

Well it feels like we have finally reached the 4,564,921<sup>st</sup> day of January! I don't know about you, but I am on my knees and do you know something, that's ok as long as together we keep putting one foot in front of the other! Clearly this week there has been the announcement that lockdown, including reduce numbers in schools will be in place until March 8<sup>th</sup>. This is longer than any of us hoped for, but if it keeps us safe then we just have to keep going. We are always here the same as when we are fully open so please just shout if you need help.

### **Remote Learning**

As I said last week we are constantly rolling with and adapting our curriculum. We listen and respond to your suggestions when we can and this week there are a couple of changes. We have introduced silly games, starters of the day and basically just a time to chat! Adults are starting sessions earlier and are encouraging the children to just do what they would do on the yard chat and keep in touch with each other. That said we have noted a number of children who do not have cameras on or speak and know this could be down to the devices. If your device doesn't have these options contact us and we will loan you one of ours, let's keep them talking.

Again now we have found out that this is not a 5 week stop gap we want to introduce back into the timetable some of the foundations on which our school is built and what was front and centre of what we did all the way back in March 2020. From next week Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, Friday afternoon will become family Friday. This means that from 12pm, no screens, no formal lessons and a pick and choose activity grid that you can do or not. It doesn't even need to be done on the Friday, take the weekend, come up with your own suggestions, share them with us, get some sunshine (I wish!) on your faces, just give yourselves time to breathe. Children in school will be doing exactly the same with my staff.

Please send any comments through to myself at [enquiries@prestonprimary.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@prestonprimary.co.uk) where we can and when appropriate, we will act on feedback.

### **Bubble closure**

We have had a bubble closure this week and a number of staff isolating. Consequently, there may be some small people interrupting their live lessons from home. I know you will understand completely and the children will probably love meeting their families, pets and the occasional amazon delivery! Thank you for understanding.

### **And finally**

My Charles Macksey picture this week. It is ok to have tough days. I have described it to staff this week as being on the longest rollercoaster ever. Let the people around you, including us, help get you up the inclines when then are tough and take time to celebrate each step we take. Another vaccine, even better made in Teesside, hopefully brings normality one step closer. And as one parent suggested this week a very large bbq on the school field, not sure about the second bit of the suggestion though which included me as chief babysitter!

Have a peaceful weekend, allow yourself time to just breathe!

Sue Richardson – Headteacher



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