

19th June 2020

School Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

I really hope you, the children and your families are keeping well and looking after yourselves both mentally and physically. It has been a very new and challenging time for all where we learn new strategies to improve each day but slowly we are returning to some normality. As you know, we are now open for Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 6 and Keyworkers/Vulnerable children. The children have come back very settled with anxiety reduced and the new school routine is running very smoothly. We are speaking to parents often on the phone and talking through the new routine. If your child is in one of these year groups, then I welcome them to return. Please feel free to phone the school and speak to us about returning. Healthy and Safety of the children, parents and staff will always come top of our priority list.

Home Learning

We want all the children back as soon as possible as we realise they need to be in school. In the meantime, we will continue to produce and improve our home learning package. Yesterday, we sent out a parent survey via text and Facebook regarding home learning. If you didn't get the text, then please phone the school to update your contact details. Remote learning is something brand new and that has had to be created in record time. The system is not perfect yet and we are trying to improve it as we go along. I ask you to please fill this survey in for each child so we can get some feedback and improve further. We will be redesigning the packs soon to make them week specific.

Please remember that all home learning since March can be found on our school website. New learning continues to be added by the teachers for each year group. <https://www.damejanet-tkat.org/coronavirus-information>

Please remember as a parent not to feel pressured to complete all the work on our website. We understand that children will feel reluctant sometimes to complete. Even if you don't do any work on one day it isn't the end of the world. Spending time with the family is also important. If there was one thing I would advise you do with the children it is read, read, read. The school day is usually 9am until 3pm so if you can, try keeping to a routine and have regular breaks.

I also appreciate that technology maybe limited at home. If you do not want your child on screens all the time, then please phone the school. We are happy to print off work for you to collect hard copies.



@DJPAoutstanding



Communication

Can I please remind everyone, in order to improve communication further between home and school, we have set up year group email accounts back in May so that you can communicate directly to teachers with any queries regarding home learning. You may want to send any work that has been completed by your children for comment. This maybe a good incentive to encourage children to complete work at home.

The emails are as follows:

Nursery@djpa-tkat.org

YearR@djpa-tkat.org

Year1@djpa-tkat.org

Year2@djpa-tkat.org

Year3@djpa-tkat.org

Year4@djpa-tkat.org

Year5@djpa-tkat.org

Year6@djpa-tkat.org

As you will notice, these are year group email accounts so your class teacher may not be the one who responds. Please note responses will only be received between 9am and 3pm, Monday to Friday. Teachers will not be working outside of these hours as it is important more than ever that I encourage work/life balance. It is far too tempting to work and check emails 24/7, which is not healthy.

Responses will not be immediate but we aim to get back to you by the next working day.

Hopefully this will provide another helpful level of communication. Staff continue to ring round as many parents as possible to make sure you are ok. Please remember that you can also email the office or phone us for general advice or support (details at the top of this letter). You are not on your own and Dame Janet can help you.

General Advice for parents and carers

Information for parents and carers about the opening of early years' providers, schools, safety in schools, attendance, transport, school meals and exams.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

We will be sending out end of year reports in the next few weeks. We have reported on your child's learning between September to March. The reports will also include information about your child's new teacher in September. In the meantime, please look after yourself and remember to phone the school if you need us.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend

Best wishes

Mr Marshall

Head of School