



10th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you are all well and coping with the latest government lockdown restrictions. Everything is going smoothly at Park Grove and the children are enjoying coming to school. It still feels strange to us to not have parents in the building and we really miss the interaction with you all. We are so pleased to remain open during this lockdown and we know it is much better for the children to be in school.

I wanted to update you on a few things to make sure you are all clear about what to do if your child needs to isolate and to give you some other bits of news.

Isolation

If whole classes are isolating, we will send work to do every day. All KS2 children will once again take home a Chromebook if needed. The home learning worked really well when we recently had to close some classes.

If your child has to isolate for family reasons but they are not unwell, we will also send work to do at home. Here are the steps of what to do if this happens to your child.

1. Inform the school office that your child needs to self-isolate and for how long.
2. Contact the class teacher via Bloomz, or email, to let them know your child is absent and requires work to be completed at home. If, for any reason, you can't contact the class teacher, please ask the office to pass on a message.
3. Wait for the teacher to get in touch with a work plan for your child. Please note that the work might only come through on day 2, as teachers have a full time class commitment while we are open, and need time to prepare work after school.
4. If for any reason you do not have the work by day 2, please contact the school office, as there may be an issue with technology that has prevented the work reaching you



Parent Hub, Bloomz and Twitter

We rely heavily on technology to communicate with parents, especially during these unusual times. Bloomz is a fantastic way for you to communicate with your child's class teachers. You will also receive regular updates and photographs of what is going on in class. Parent Hub is an excellent app for keeping all our letters in one place. Please sign up to Parent Hub and Bloomz, if you haven't already. It is really important that we can get our messages out to you in the most efficient way possible.

You can also follow us on Twitter (@ParkGroveSchool), where we regularly post photographs of things happening in school.

School Video

On Friday, we recorded a video about Park Grove. It is currently being edited ready to send out. The video is aimed at new parents who are thinking of sending their children to Park Grove, but cannot visit during these times. However, I think you will all find it interesting because you haven't been inside the building in a long time. Watch this space!

Online learning platforms

We have recently invested in an online platform which includes Reading Eggs, Mathletics, Mathseeds and Readwritespell. These programmes can be used at home and are perfect as an addition to home-school learning, in the event of a class having to isolate. The children are really enjoying them. A huge thank you to the PTA, who have given us £3,000 towards this platform! It will benefit every child in the school from Reception to Year 6. Please note that, as with all homework, it is entirely up to parents' discretion whether the children do this or not. All our homework is voluntary.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. We have had so many really lovely emails from parents which always brighten our days here at Park Grove.

Best wishes,

Jo Sawyer

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