

29/01/21



DON'T FORGET
MONDAY FEBRUARY
22nd IS AN INSET DAY

Dear Parents and Carers,

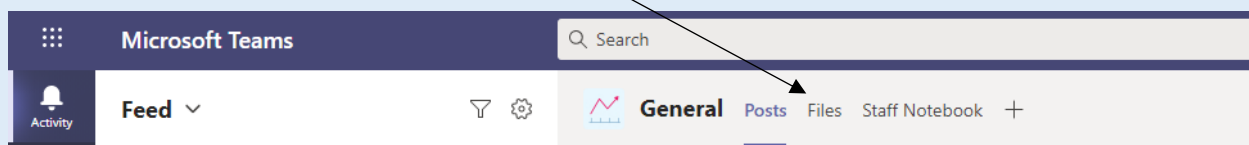
I hope this newsletter finds you all keeping safe and well.

I thought I would use this opportunity to share with you all some further developments we will be making to our remote learning package. Once again, thank you so much for your support, understanding and appreciation of the situation. It is hugely appreciated, as is your continued feedback; only with this vital communication can we continue to review, reflect and improve our offer.

Remote Learning Planning

Until now, the weekly planning has been placed on the school website, in the remote learning section. However, we fully appreciate that this means navigating between 3 platforms (the school website, Microsoft Teams and Seesaw) and that this is proving challenging.

Therefore, from next week, planning will be made available to you all by accessing your child/ren's Microsoft Teams page and then clicking on the Files section at the top of the page (see diagram below). Within the Files section you will find a folder for the week and all planning and links to lessons will be available there.



Live Teaching

The twice daily Teams sessions will continue, but from next week, teachers will also be offering an additional live support session every day in all year groups. This will take place directly after the morning starter Teams session and will give opportunity for any misconceptions and misunderstandings to be addressed by teachers, either 1:1 or in small groups.

We hope these developments will further improve our remote learning offer. As ever, please do keep in touch to let us know if there is anything else we can do to support you all in these challenging times.

Rob Slater
Head of School

A Snowy Masterpiece

I know a lot of you will have been out enjoying the snow at the beginning of the week. One of our year 4 pupils Lucas and his sister Keris took things to the next level and made an amazing Igloo and it's snow joke! They were interviewed by Notts TV and I have permission to share the link with you below – their interview is at 13.10 on the timer.

<https://nottstv.com/programme/ey-up-notts-wednesday-27th-january/>

February Half Term w/c 15.02.21

Schools will close as usual over the February half term and are not expected to remain open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers that week.

Our leadership team plays an important role in contact tracing for those pupils and staff who are still attending school and will continue to do so through the half term holiday. If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus within 48hrs of attending school and subsequently tests positive please report this via our dedicated Covid19 email address:

covid@westdalejuniors.co.uk

Return to School

This week the Prime Minister announced that it will not be possible to resume face-to-face learning following the February half term and instead hopes it will be safe to commence the re-opening of schools and colleges from Monday March 8th. This is in response to the national public health data and pressure on NHS capacity.

Education settings, as well as students, parents and carers will be given at least 2 weeks' notice to prepare for a return to face-to-face education.

Voluntary Staff Testing

Staff have participated in our first week of voluntary Covid19 testing. Routine, rapid asymptomatic testing is a significant development and will help to identify positive cases more quickly and break the chain of transmission.

We have had an extremely high level of staff engagement and this further enhances the protective measure we have in place to make our school a safe place for adults and children alike.