

4 DAYS INTO ANOTHER NATIONAL LOCKDOWN, WE HOPE THAT YOU ARE SAFE AND WELL!



Forefield Junior School,
Crosby

PROUD:

**PASSION, RESPECT,
OPPORTUNITY,
UNIQUE, DETERMINED**



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Dear Parents/Carers,

Well, that wasn't the start to 2021 that we had all hoped for or expected. I'm sure you have all felt a range of emotions over the past few days – especially given the short notice. As always at FJS, we have accepted that our plans for this half-term have had to be abandoned, but by working together we have put new systems in place and continued to adapt them on a daily basis. Hopefully, at this point, we now have a clearer idea of which children will be in school and which ones will be learning from home.

As we are offering the same learning at home and school for curriculum continuity, it is not essential for children to attend school every day unless they have to. In fact, quite the opposite. To keep the rates of potential transmission low, we need to keep our numbers low. This does not apply to vulnerable children as it is assumed that school is the best place for them to meet their needs and we have clarified this with the families concerned. However, for the children of critical workers, if there are days when they can safely be catered for at home, or through informal childcare support bubbles, then we would encourage you to do so. This then reduces the risk and likelihood of a positive case for the staff and children who have no choice but to be in school. We want to do everything we can to avoid this because if we were in the position of a confirmed case, the entire POD would need to self-isolate for ten days, adding considerable pressure to you as critical workers. Unfortunately, this has already happened in other Sefton schools and across the country.

Therefore, if you need the place, use it, but if there are occasions when you don't, then please keep your children at home. From the conversations (and emails) we have had, it is clear that many of you have found alternatives to sending your children to school – even if you have asked for a place. Even so, the number of pupils in school this week has been far higher than we expected.

Our remote learning offer is based upon digital access, which is why I would urge you to contact school if you are struggling. Every family has their own personal circumstances and challenges to deal with and the thought of home learning may be the final straw. As I write this, I am hoping that my two children are completing their home learning – but I'll worry about that when I get home tonight! As ever, please just do what you can and communicate with us, so that we can help.

We do have a limited number of Vodafone SIM cards for families who have **no internet access** and although our allocation of devices has not yet arrived, we will endeavour to help where we can – if you let us know. Did you know that it is possible to access SeeSaw through your Xbox? Follow the instructions on: <https://apple.news/AyN-vZkCDT8WA2tUTW9g0kw>

Thank you again for your continued support, we have received some lovely messages this week from parents and they have kept us going through the snow and ice!

P A Swift
Headteacher

Dear children,

Keep smiling, keep working hard and keep being your brilliant selves! We are so PROUD of you and already we are hearing amazing things about what you have been up to! Not just on SeeSaw, but creating your own online content to inspire others and raise money for charity!

Remember to stay safe, follow the rules and look after one another.

This won't last forever and we can't wait to see you all!

Mr Swift