



11.2.21

Dear Parents/Carers,

Live Sessions

In recent weeks, following our communication on our remote learning offer and our rationale for pre-recorded lessons. Some parents have contacted us to share their worries regarding their child's social interactions during this period of lockdown.

The current restrictions on our daily lives are challenging for everyone, and we are aware of the impact that this is having on some children's social skills and more specifically the opportunities to interact with their peers.

We have implemented a fortnightly live session this half term for the children at home. This session is with the class teacher as we acknowledge the importance of the connection to school and realise that the children at home are missing this. We know the children and their class teachers really enjoyed these sessions.

After half term this will be a weekly feature for each year group with their class teacher, for the children at home. I will also be hosting a live weekly assembly for each year group. A timetable of when these will take place will be sent out on Friday 12th February to the families of the children who are learning at home and who have agreed to the code of conduct for their child to take part in live sessions.

Individual class groups or friendship groups may want to organise other opportunities for social interactions on a video platform so that the whole class can get together. I know that this is already happening within classes and between friends for some children. We feel that within our school community this type of event is possible for parents in each class to organise for those families who want it whilst schools remain closed.

In the interest of keeping children safe, and if parents decide to host online social events for the children in their class, please be aware that there are certain elements that are important to consider, such as:

- Online safety be considered and monitored
- Session be structured to ensure it is manageable and enjoyable
- Guidelines on what to expect from the virtual get together; scavenger hunt of items at home, sharing a favourite toy or celebrating a birthday etc.

Thank you for your continued understanding and support and for all that you are doing to support your child/children through this period of school closure.

Kind regards

Claire Tester
Head of School