

January 5<sup>th</sup> 2021

Dear parents/carers,

Thank you so much for your understanding for the very late message yesterday about school closure. Most ICT systems struggled due to the capacity of staff trying to access them. It was always our intention to open school immediately for key worker children, those that are vulnerable or with EHC Plans and we did this despite having such late notice on Monday night. I apologise to those parents who had to organise emergency child care today because they were not sure about school opening.

The children have really enjoyed school today. The teachers and teaching assistants have either been teaching or finalising home learning.

From Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January, Year 5 and 6 will move to use home learning via Microsoft Teams as their learning platform.

From Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January, Year 3 and 4 will move to Microsoft Teams.

Until then, home learning will still be accessed via the school website.

In order to access home learning via Microsoft Teams, parents will receive:

- a log in for their child;
- information about home learning;
- instructions of how to use Microsoft Teams;
- maths, English and topic work, which will be the same work as children are completing in school. Packs will be available between 3.20pm and 3:40pm on Fridays and can be collected from the front of the school office - please email the teachers to let them know you require one.

Children in EYFS, Year 1 and 2 will continue to use Tapestry as their platform for now. This is working very successfully at the moment.

During this school closure, the children attending school will be taught by a teacher in their bubble. A teacher will also support the on-line learning provision for the children learning at home.

Please could you let us know by **12:00pm tomorrow** (06/01/21) if your child needs a place at school during this school closure so we can finalise classes. To let us know either email [info@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk) or ring 01773 823383.

We are very happy for the children to come in comfortable warm clothing and school uniform is not a necessity. It may prove easier with frequent washing of clothes recommended. Some children and parents prefer to send children in uniform and this is totally fine. If your child is coming to school in uniform and is due to have PE, please ensure that they come to school in PE kit on PE days, which will remain the same days as before Lockdown.

Thank you for your continued support. Despite the extremely challenging circumstances, I have really enjoyed becoming part of the Pottery team again. All the staff and children have made me feel extremely welcome.

If you have any concerns about the on-line learning please email your child's class teacher or myself - [epeach@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:epeach@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Mrs Peach

Headteacher