



BEAL VALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Part of Crompton House CofE Multi Academy Trust

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Dear Children and Parents,

Well, what a week it has been – from a normal school day on Monday to a full online platform by Tuesday morning. I must begin with a huge thank you to our whole school community of pupils, families, governors and staff who have worked tirelessly to make changes at the ‘drop of a hat’ to ensure things are in place to support our children. Staff have stayed up until the early hours to plan brand new online learning without any warning from the DfE – in fact only 24 hours before the Prime Minister had assured the nation that all children should be sent to school. Pupils and families have supported school, keeping children at home where they can, being patient waiting for key worker places when requested and emailing and calling to let us know how well home learning has gone or remaining calm and patient with staff as we are working out the issues ourselves. All of this when we know you’ll have been anxious and worried about the best thing to do to look after your children. All in all this week has been a huge success in the face of very difficult challenges.

Next week (hopefully a little calmer), will give us all a chance to catch our breath and continue to fix any outstanding problems we are having with the home learning provision. We would ask you to be kind to yourselves too, overnight many of you have become your children’s primary educator, a role that under normal circumstances requires years of studying and training. Yet you have pick up that role and are having to navigate ‘live learning’ on Teams and learning activities on Purple Mash without any warning. Trust us, you are doing an amazing job!

Next week, we will also be in touch over the Free School Meals system – as yet, we are waiting for guidance over whether this system will be a packed lunch for collection or whether vouchers will be distributed like during the lockdown in March. Rest assured, as soon as we know, you will know too. In the meantime, if you are struggling for food please contact school, we do not want any child going hungry.

All the DfE laptops that have been provided for school have now been allocated and messages sent out to those that requested them. We did have a very limited number so apologies if you have not received one. As per Gavin Williamson’s announcement, we are expecting to be able to apply for further devices if requested children have not got one but no details for this have yet been provided to school so please again bear with us.

Thank you for all of the kind words, smiles, emails and messages of support that have come into school this week. You’ll never know how much of a pick-me-up these are to staff in trying times. It really shows that as the Beal Vale family, we are all in this together.

The timetable for next week's online Live learning on Microsoft Teams (via purple mash) will follow the same format as this week;

Reception – 11am

Year 1 & 2 – English 9:30am & Maths 11am

Year 3 & 4 – English 9am & Maths 10:30am

Year 5 & 6 – English 9:45am & Maths 11:15am

Stay safe,

Greg Ball
Headteacher