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Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Storey

Spring Term Newsletter 05 - 25/02/2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope you and your children are looking forward to returning to school on 8th March. A separate letter will be sent on Monday following guidance from the Department for Education. It will be very similar to the letter sent in September with full details following our updated risk assessment.

We are aware that Covid 19 has impacted on our families differently and the experience of spending an extended period of time away from school will have affected everybody differently. There have been challenges and some families have also found some unexpected positives. Whatever your experience, I am sure like us, you will be looking forward to return to some sort of normality in the coming months.

We have supported wellbeing in many ways at school, obviously by providing childcare/ learning support for our vulnerable children and children of keyworkers. We have also offered remote support over the last few months. You may have contacted me, your child's class teachers or TAs or Mrs Wright to seek advice if your child has been worried or had any issues that have affected their wellbeing recently and we hope you have found this both helpful and supportive.

We understand that not everyone has had the opportunity to speak to school staff and feel that it would be useful to collect any information about children that might affect them when they return to school. Therefore, this is a short questionnaire that will help us to understand your children, their experiences and feelings. It will also help us to organise and direct support when children return to school. Please complete and return by e mail to: head@penn.cumbria.sch.uk. Your information will be kept confidential and only used for the benefit of your child/ children

Pupil wellbeing questionnaire

Child's Name

Class

1. Have your family directly been affected by Covid 19 or other illness in recent months? Please give details, particularly if there has been bereavement in the family or your child has witnessed any serious illness.
2. How has your child coped with remote learning? Do you have any concerns about their learning?
3. Have your family circumstances changed during the last few months and if so how do you think this has affected your child?
4. How do you think we could best support the wellbeing of your child when they return to school?

In our experience, many children are more resilient than we realise and they bounce back very quickly when routines are re-established. We found this last time. Please be assured that we will make every effort to balance academic, social and emotional needs when we return to school and our positive, nurturing environment will support everyone.

A last push with remote education!!

You are on the home stretch now and we know everyone has done their best with what teachers have sent. Thank you to teachers, teachings assistants, staff and parents for all your ongoing efforts. Please continue to engage until the children return to school as this will help them to feel confident and ready to learn when they are back in the classroom.

This week is 'Fashionable Friday'. Your child's class teacher will plan English and Maths activities. Here are a list of additional activities that you can choose from. It would be lovely to see some of your creations and designs so please take photos and upload on Seesaw and Tapestry.

- Wear what you choose- hopefully mums and dads will agree to this! You can dress smartly as if you are going to a party or you can stay in PJs. Your choice!
- Play some music and create a fashion show for other members of your household to enjoy
- Design an outfit for yourself, a member of your family or one of your toys. Be creative- make it different and not like any other outfit you have seen before
- Make a hat out of paper or any other suitable material of your choice
- Make a pompom. There are videos and tutorials on YouTube. Add your pompom to an item of clothing. It could become a bobble for a hat or scarf or an accessory for a jumper or dress.
- Upcycle a garment- use an old piece of clothing to make something new. If you have ever seen the Great British Sewing Bee you will have seen all sorts of brilliant creations, a shirt made into a dress, some trousers made into a pair of shorts, some leggings made into a hat. It's your chance to make something new.
- Learn to knit, sew or cross stitch - for this you will need help. It is not essential that you choose this option!

Have fun with these creative activities!