18/01/21

Dear parents / carers

Thank you for your continued support with both home learning and learning in school.

Last week we experienced some technical difficulties with access to our online learning, however, we are hopeful they have been resolved. Mrs. Hope will be sending out a questionnaire later this week to gauge your opinions about our online offer. We are constantly trying to adapt and improve our offer so look forward to your feedback. Please be aware that the government and school expectation is that your child engages with online learning. The recommended levels of engagement are EYFS 2 hours per day/KS1 3 hours per day/KS2 4 hours per day. If you have any queries linked to home learning or any issues accessing home learning please contact the school via the dedicated email address [windyrl@gatedu.org](mailto:windyrl@gatedu.org).

The government have agreed to issue Free School Meals vouchers for the next four weeks until February half term. Mrs. Gerry will be uploading your information to the system this week but please be aware that once she has done this the process is out of our hands. Last lockdown there were some delays to the processing of vouchers, however, we are hopeful the system will be more organised this time.

As you may well be aware the government have decided to cancel SATs for KS1 and KS2 this year. Staff will continue to use teacher assessment and standardised tests to make judgements about your child’s progress and learning. The results from these will be shared with the secondary school of your choice and with our year 3 teachers so that your child(ren) can make a smooth transition between Key Stages.

We currently have a shortage of spare uniform for our youngest pupils in school. If you have any uniform you no longer require and are passing by school please drop it into the main office where we will quarantine it.

Thank you again for your continued support it is very much appreciated by all staff in school and at home. Can I just remind you of the government guidance that if parents who are critical workers can keep their child at home they should.

Also, if your child, or anyone in your household, develops any COVID symptoms, your whole household must remain at home and not go to work, school or public areas. You should arrange testing for the person who has developed symptoms. When the result is known further advice will be available. In the event of your child testing positive outside of school hours, please notify school by email as soon as possible at [windynookprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:windynookprimaryschool@gateshead.gov.uk)

Testing can be arranged by calling 119 or via the NHS website: nhs.uk/coronavirus

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch

Many Thanks

Lucie Forrest

Head Teacher