



THE MINSTER NURSERY AND INFANT SCHOOL

SCHOOL OF INSPIRATION

DETERMINATION HONOUR BELIEVE

PREPARING FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE WITH INNOVATIVE AND EXCITING LEARNING

Dear Parents/Carers,

4th May 2020

I just wanted to keep in touch with you all about what is going on behind the scenes.

Thanks to Mrs Lisa Parker, our Family Liaison Officer, we have managed to get to grips with the food vouchers for some of our eligible families. I am truly impressed by Lisa's dedication to getting this arranged. I know she had to phone and wait in a queue for 4 or more hours. Eventually, Lisa was able to register our school, one night, at 2 am! It has been very frustrating, but we can understand how these services are inundated by need across the country at this difficult time.

Our office staff have been busy in their respective roles in admissions for September and financial work as we have had 'year-end' and are now into a new financial year. We have been working with governors on finance matters as procedures still have deadlines and bills still need to be paid.

Our kitchen staff have been working out the best way to feed those who are in need and had to adapt the way they work, as have other members of staff who have been so open to supporting and helping wherever the need is.

Our teachers, at home, are spending many hours every day finding the best quality on-line resources to help you support learning at home. They have taken on board some difficulties with printing and are finding activities that do not require the use of a printer. There are so many online resources, but they are of varying quality.

You will have had a phone call from your child's teacher because we are keen to maintain the Minster family connections. I have heard lots of very positive feedback about these calls. I know that just a few minutes of talking on the phone can be a lovely way to keep a connection. Teachers have also been emailing parents/carers, too.

Our school has maintained this contact to support learning and also because we have a duty of care to know that you are all well. We are concerned about the welfare of the families with whom there has been no engagement at all. If this is you, then please do drop us a line to tell us how you are getting on. Mrs Miller, our Attendance Officer, is keeping a keen eye on the levels of contact to make sure all is well, as it should be.

Mrs Morgan sent me a video clip of a child in her class who was reciting a poem. It was delightful! We love reading about, hearing about and seeing the activities you have been doing at home.

Our teachers in school have been providing children with some academic input, outdoor play and sports opportunities, arts and crafts and board games. It has been very uplifting for me to see these children flourishing in their care. I am very thankful to them for being prepared to put themselves at risk by coming in, with glad hearts, to care for and teach the children of key-workers (some of whom are front-line Covid 19 workers) who have no other available childcare.

We shall keep on working behind the scenes and we will get through this. All things pass.

Until then, I hope you are all keeping well and fit,

Mrs Edmonds