

Headteacher  
Mrs Sophie Gosden



National Support School  
designated by



National College for  
Teaching & Leadership

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

This is to update you on the week so far. I hope you are all coping with the latest restrictions as best you can and all of the staff at The Mill are thinking of you.

#### In school learners and home learners

Our pupils are all being taught the same curriculum and as far as possible, what you do at home is matched to what the children in school are doing. For those of you with children in school, the lessons are with their usual adults in their year group and the focus is about learning and curriculum coverage as you would expect in 'normal' times.

#### Devices for home learning

So far this week, we have already been able to lend 20 families devices, and we are continuing to work through the requests. If you are a family with no devices at home or you have challenges, let us know. Please email Miss Plant [deputy@themill-tkat.org](mailto:deputy@themill-tkat.org)

#### Phonecalls from teachers and Google forms

We will be starting calls home to you next week. You will either get a call or we will send you an online form to tell us what your child has enjoyed the most, what is working well, and what we could do better. When your teachers call, please do ask them to speak to your children if you would like that! This can help with praise and motivation and not only support your child but support you too. We have had some of you phone this week exasperated wishing that your teachers could be at home with you keeping everyone focused! A little pep talk from them might help some reluctant learners!

#### Year group support emails

These are working well and giving you a direct link to your children's teachers and teaching assistants. If you have any queries about the learning, please send them to:

<a href="mailto:eyfs.support@themill-tkat.org">eyfs.support@themill-tkat.org</a>
<a href="mailto:year1.support@themill-tkat.org">year1.support@themill-tkat.org</a>
<a href="mailto:year2.support@themill-tkat.org">year2.support@themill-tkat.org</a>
<a href="mailto:year3.support@themill-tkat.org">year3.support@themill-tkat.org</a>
<a href="mailto:year4.support@themill-tkat.org">year4.support@themill-tkat.org</a>
<a href="mailto:year5.support@themill-tkat.org">year5.support@themill-tkat.org</a>
<a href="mailto:year6.support@themill-tkat.org">year6.support@themill-tkat.org</a>

Headteacher

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### Live assemblies

You will be getting invitations for next week to join online year group forever proud assemblies and these are ways those in school can keep in touch with friends at home and we can celebrate together. These will be a bit like our hangouts we had online in July.

### Online lessons

For the next week, teachers are recording the inputs and teaching elements of the work that is going on in the classrooms and related to the work on Google classrooms for you and your child to access at times that suit you. We are starting to timetable live lessons for the week after but the overall feedback so far from you is that you need these to be staggered because you want to check in on each child's learning and many, many of you are sharing devices, so we need to effectively timetable times of live lessons. We hope to have a mixture of live and recorded lessons after next week.

### Marvellous Me phone App for parents and carers

Teachers and teaching assistants have been asked to make sure they are keeping in touch with you, giving your children feedback and rewarding great work using our Marvellous Me App. 86% of you are signed up to it, so if you are not yet, please contact the school office to find out how. If for some reason you do not seem to be receiving anything, contact the year group at the support email address please.

### Free School Meal Vouchers

We are processing school meal vouchers for this week, which should be released to you next week. If you are in receipt of these vouchers and your children are in school, you will need to provide a packed lunch for your child, including children in Reception, Years 1 and 2.

Thank you for your feedback so far on the Google forms, it is really helping us with making sure we keep improving. We know it is all still far from 'perfect' but we want to do our best to meet the needs of all our families. Thank you for your patience and your support.

Kind regards,



Sophie Gosden  
Headteacher