

'A Caring Christian Family Where We Grow Together'

Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, I hope you are all keeping well and that you are starting to feel more comfortable with the remote learning package we have offered. As we enter our third week in lockdown, I wanted to message once again to say thank you for all your continued messages of support and for the engagement in the learning at home. It has been a monumental effort, with all staff working flat out whilst balancing their own family commitments, to keep our Remote Learning and Key Worker groups established and running. Your supportive comments and emails we have received are very much appreciated and are always shared with the staff.

As I have always said this will not be perfect. I appreciate that learning at home is no substitute to being in school and the social and academic benefits that it brings for all children. Nothing can ever replace a talented teacher in a classroom. However, through the use of Google classrooms we can ensure that the much-needed face to face teaching takes place twice daily now the need is there to close our school.

I have been amazed with the resilience of both staff, parents and the most important ones - the children. They have all engaged with the learning set by teachers and it was lovely to welcome over 90 families again onto our Zoom worship last week. Please find the link below to this week's Zoom worship on Friday 22nd at 11.30am.

You are invited to a scheduled Zoom meeting

Topic: Zoom Worship

Time: Jan 22, 2021 11:30am

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/94959523376?pwd=V3JSU01OcjRpTFFFDV3ZlOXAYnJlMQT09>

Meeting ID: 949 5952 3376

Passcode: y4t2Kc

Next week I will also be running a family quiz night via zoom on **Friday 29th January at 6pm**. A zoom invite and quiz answer sheet will be emailed out next week for those who wish to participate.

It is through these simple connections that we thrive and keep that collegiate and social aspect of school alive! We will keep adapting, changing and improving week by week.

Padlet

You may also remember in our first lockdown we used Padlet as a way for children to communicate with school on a social level – posting pictures and asking questions about things they have been doing. Padlet is back! As we have Google classroom to provide contact and communication about work, Padlet will be used this time to provide children with the chance to share good things which have been happening and respond to our weekly worship sessions. Please use the link below to access the school padlet page.

[Padlet - Bunbury School](#)

Parent Survey

Whilst we are keen to hear what is working well with our remote learning package, we are always looking at ways to help and improve the experience for all parents. Please take a moment to complete our 'Remote Learning Survey' which is available via school spider to feedback regarding our remote learning package. The survey focuses on 3 questions:

- [Strengths of remote learning package offered by Bunbury school](#)
- [Areas for development with remote learning package currently on offer](#)
- [Any further comments regarding the current school closure at Bunbury](#)



We know that for some the number of tasks will be too onerous and for others there will never be enough – this is something which will never be perfect and we ask that you find your own routines with the amount of work you complete. As a working parent with 3 children, I do understand the overwhelming stress and pressure families are under at present. I want to reiterate that there is no expectation to do everything we set. I appreciate that it's not always possible to complete all of the work at the suggested times and that you will find your own rhythms and routines. This is perfectly fine and normal. Within your house you may be needing to juggle financial, health or working concerns as well as complete the schedule of work with your child or children. This is not home-schooling. Home-schooling is a choice, which you considered, you planned for and took the decision to be your child's teacher. This is remote learning in an unprecedented emergency situation which is impacting on the whole world and all children. There is no expectation to complete everything we send out. It is not a competition, or a race to get the work done and no judgements will be made about any family during these unprecedented circumstances.

School Provision

Our key worker provision continues to support the children of our most critical key workers. Our numbers in the provision are high and we are currently supporting 30% of the pupils on role within our provision. As you will know, our role as a school going forward is to provide the best possible remote learning that we can whilst supporting the children of key workers in school. There is a fine balancing act here. I continue to receive a great deal of requests for key workers provision, these and I do not doubt for one moment that all of the requests are needed.

Could I ask you all to carefully review if you are able to support your child at home. I know this won't always be possible but if we end up with larger amounts of children in school, it will greatly reduce the quality of remote learning provision as I will need to draw upon staff to support the increasing numbers. If you can have your child at home, then this is the best, though not always the most ideal place for them. The guidance is clear that if you can have children at home then that is where they are best placed. Equally, if you are a key worker but working at home or a partner is at home then please think about whether a place in the provision is really needed. I am asking again, like many other head teachers, if you can continually review your arrangements and let me know of any changes. We are here to support children of Key workers and will continue to do so but I need to ensure that pupil and staffing numbers are kept as low as they can be to reduce any transmission risks.

Online Safety

As we are using IT more regularly as part of our daily practice please can I ask that we all follow the school protocols for virtual platforms which are available on our school webpage under the Covid tab. This will ensure that any sessions delivered are productive and purposeful for all involved. In addition to this, the 'Think-U-Know' link below contains information on how to keep everyone safe online during this period of remote learning:

[Think-U-Know](#)

I know that you will all have questions around when school will re-open. The simple answer is that I do not know. I will of course, as always, let you know when we are given the go ahead to open safely. We are more than likely looking at some point after the February half term. As educators, we all entered this profession to teach face to face and to offer an exciting learning environment where social interactions support development and growth. Naturally, we want to get back to that as soon as it is safe to do so. In the meantime, we will continue to support you from a distance as much as we are able. We won't always get it right and that is when we learn and change. Thank you for the many supportive and positive emails, donations of laptops and kind gifts. It shows that we understand we are in this together and will get through it together.

If there is anything we can do to support you and your families during this time, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Take care and stay safe

Kind regards



N M Badger
Principal