

# St Alban's Catholic Primary School

## Newsletter to Parents

## January 22nd 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Thank you for your support for the children this week. St. Alban's is a close community and if your child is learning remotely or in school we are one family. We want the children to have the best education possible.

I am grateful to the staff that keep striving to ensure learning continues. Every member of staff has been open to adapting to new ways of teaching. Each year group team plan together so that the same learning for the children in school is replicated at home. At the moment we are working on outcomes every two weeks and the learning packs that we have shared are in the main entrance if not already collected. The teachers in each team take it in turns to deliver in school or online but they are working hard to make sure it is the same learning. The only difference is the method of delivery.

Each day we learn something new and each week our remote learning keeps improving as we discover a new and better way to support the children at home. Considering we had planned to be in school this is quite exceptional. Everyone is appreciative of the comments and your positive support. I thank you on their behalf.

As you know we are using Class Dojo or google Classroom for uploading home learning and this has proven a very effective platform especially around "parent – teacher communication". We absolutely recognise that this new lockdown is the last thing that any of us want and as a school we remain realistic about how challenging it is for parents to work from home and support their children's learning.

Please do what you can and let us know if you are struggling in any way or if you need paper copies of work for your children. We are here to help, not to add to your stress levels!

I have been impressed with how the staff have risen to challenges and to support the children and how you been creative about juggling your work load and when the children do the learning. I have been moved and touched by the work you are doing – many working for the NHS or charities supporting vulnerable families. It is a privilege to support your children.

We continue to develop our remote learning offer and there will be some more interactive home lessons as part of our home learning offer for the younger children. We are finding recorded lessons work better for the youngest in our school and give parents an opportunity to pause or watch again. Thank you for continually supporting the children.

Hopefully, with greater understanding of the new Covid strain and the continued roll out of the vaccine we will be able to reopen fully, sooner rather than later. All we know currently is that the Covid mutation is more infectious than the last one (50% – 70% apparently.) We need therefore to be very careful in terms of following the rules and we have reviewed social distancing for children and adults in school. We will soon be regularly testing staff in school (not children) and this will give additional assurances to you that we are doing what we can to keep school as safe as possible.

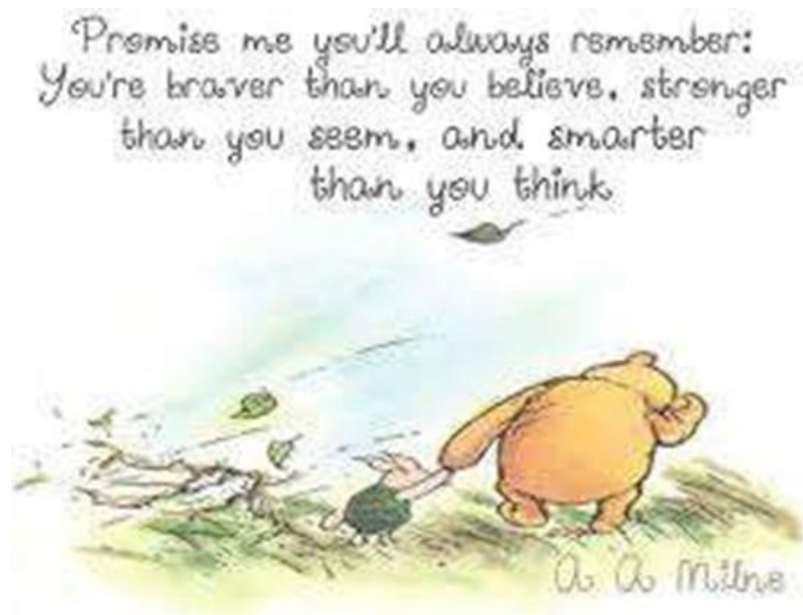
Recently Mr Sayle has been measuring the Carbon Dioxide levels of rooms and thanks to the measure taken all rooms are well within recommended limits for ensuring well ventilated rooms and reducing risks to be as small as possible.

Our remote learning offer is now on the website [http://www.stalbans.wirral.sch.uk/serve\\_file/911242](http://www.stalbans.wirral.sch.uk/serve_file/911242) - this is dynamic and will evolve as we learn to make the learning for children better for the children. I am going to send a survey to you next week to seek more feedback on what we are providing and have your input on the learning offer. We will do this quite regularly but I know more online "Live" sessions are being planned and have taken place even if this just introduces a lesson or a class meets to feedback on learning. Thanks to the staff for taking this on.

I have contacted Wirral Laptop donations for some support as they have been supporting local schools. I have Sim cards that have 30GB of data if they can be useful to you. Please do contact us if you need any further information or support as we will be here throughout the lockdown.

There is a useful online resource called 'Five ways to manage your wellbeing as a parent during lockdown' at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrmhscw>

We are missing all of the children and it has been lovely to see their little faces albeit virtually. Be kind to yourselves, take care and you are all in our thoughts.



Mr J McDonald  
Headteacher