

STEPHENSON WAY ACADEMY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

-Headteacher: Mrs T Page

-Stephenson Way, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham, DL5 7DD

-Tel: 01325 300324 -Email: office@swans.education www.stephensonway.co.uk

End of Spring Half-Term Update

12th February 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer,

As we come to the end of Spring half-term, I just wanted to give you an update on the current situation in school and the plans for after the holidays.

Since the national lockdown was announced on January 4th most children have been required to learn remotely from home, with only a limited number of children able to attend according to stringent government criteria. Although as a school we are desperate to welcome all children back to school full-time, we are bound by the government guidance as to how and when this will happen.

Although March 8th has been suggested in the media as a possible date for return, this has <u>not been finalised</u> by the government and as yet, we have no guarantee this will happen. We also do not know when pupils do return whether this will be all children or whether it will be a phased return of particular classes / year groups over a staggered period. However, as soon as we have further information, we will of course let you know.

In the meantime, I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has continued to work with us throughout this really challenging time. Home-learning is not easy and I appreciate the stress and pressure that many of you have been under, juggling work, home life and keeping your children on task and learning: thank you!

Children will not be set any work over the half-term holiday: this is a chance for us all to catch our breath, relax and re-charge ready for the second half of Spring term.

Teachers will be switching off for a well-earned rest, having been juggling face to face planning, teaching and marking, as well as monitoring all online learning and making regular support phone calls to you all every week.

School will be closed from 3pm Friday 12th February and will re-open on Monday 22nd February. Staff will be unavailable to contact during this time.

Only the children currently in school under the government criteria will be returning on Monday 22nd February.

For children who are currently attending school, if your child displays any symptoms or tests positive for Covid -19 48 hours after we break up on Friday (by 3pm on Sunday 14th February) please inform us via the school email at office@swans.education

After Sunday, you will need to report this through the NHS Track and Trace service or contact 119.

We hope you have a lovely holiday and look forward to hopefully seeing everyone back at some point in the next half term ©

Mrs Page Head Teacher

















