

ST MARK'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher: Ms Laura Kelsey BA (Hons), PGCE, CEPQH

27th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I wanted to write to you to explain our remote learning offering a little more. We are using google classrooms this time as it allows us to upload videos of teaching input to help make home learning a little easier. We would love to do live sessions via google meet but we cannot because our upload speeds are so poor at school. We did upgrade our internet after the last lockdown to the highest we can get on the line but the upload speeds are still a maximum of 8gb. This means live interaction (including zoom meeting for me) don't work, especially if more than one person is using the internet. I have received a quote for putting in a new faster broadband line into school but the cost is around £8,000 per year and we do not have enough money in the school budget for this unfortunately.

I know that supporting home learning at school is very challenging for everyone. We legally have to provide the amount of content that we are but we understand that not all families will be able to complete everything. It is fine to pick and choose what you can cope with at home as I said in my previous email. We would appreciate you contacting us, either through google classrooms or email, once a week so we know that you are OK.

Thank you to everyone who has contacted us with supportive messages - they really do brighten our days. I'm sure that you will understand that workload for school staff is at an all-time high with providing learning for those children in school and remote learning. We have all staff in school doing both in person learning and remote learning because we are such a small school whereas larger schools can have teachers on a rota so they are only providing in school learning or remote learning, not both at the same time.

We are looking forward to welcome everyone back to school as soon as we are allowed to and I will be in touch as soon as we have more information on this.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laura Kelsey'.

Laura Kelsey
Headteacher



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