



WBS - Working, Believing, Succeeding – A Wonderful Bridge to Success



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HEAD TEACHER *Mr M Ashton*

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you have all enjoyed the half term and taken some time to recharge before our next step of homeschooling. This certainly has not been the start of 2021 we had all hoped for, but I hope for many that there is some light at the end of this dark tunnel we have lived through for almost a year.

As you are all aware, the Governing Board and Senior Leadership Team made the decision late on Sunday 3rd January 2021 to move to remote learning from Tuesday 5th January 2021. The welfare of the staff, pupils and community was at the heart of our decision and we are grateful for the understanding of the late correspondence. On Monday 4th January 2021, the government made the late decision for the country to enter Lockdown 3, with a move to remote learning and what an adjustment that has been!

The challenges of homeschooling are great on both the parents and children. Many of you have children of different ages learning at home and/or are working from home and this alone is incredibly difficult to ensure they attend the Zooms, complete work and send it to teachers. It is very important to us that you all look after yourselves, both mentally and physically. We also hope the activities set from the brilliant WBS teachers have helped the children (and adults) think about their mental and physical health. In the weekly newsletters, Mr Ashton shares brilliant resources if anyone is concerned about their own or their child's mental health during the pandemic. Remember that some days will be better than others and that is OK.

I write as both the Chair of Governors and a parent when I extend my gratitude to all the teachers and staff at Warwick Bridge School who worked with minimum notice to ensure quality remote learning could take place. I think you will all agree that the quality of remote learning, support and feedback makes such a difference to the children. The addition of the weekly assemblies and Zoom lessons held now are also a wonderful way for the children to see their peers and esteemed teachers.

For those of us at home supporting our child(ren) with their learning we certainly recognise the patience, skills and amazing aptitude that the teachers demonstrate every day. The teachers have spent hours putting together the learning resources for the children and they have done, and continue to do, their very best. They are working long hours, some also have their own children at home and are undertaking work outside of their comfort zones to enable as much remote learning as possible. The planning, preparation and feedback are all highly time consuming and staff are still in school teaching those children of key workers. So please, join me in thanking them and recognising their efforts beyond what is called for under normal circumstances.

These are exceptionally difficult times; we are all doing what we can to get through this the best we can. I wish you and your loved ones the best of health.

Very best wishes

Gemma Reed (Chair of WBS Governing Board)

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Warwick Bridge School Governing Board