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Dear Parents and Carers

Following last evening's announcement by the Prime Minister of another National lockdown and schools being closed until at least the February half term, I just want to reassure you all that we will be doing everything we can to support you and your child(ren) at this challenging time. The school will continue to remain open for children of critical workers and vulnerable children and so if your situation changes at all over the coming days and weeks, please do let us know so that we can make appropriate provision for your child.

During the first period of school closure back in March, you all did a fantastic job with home schooling – it may not have felt like it at times – but you really did. Since coming back to school in September, the children have forged strong relationships with their class teachers and teaching assistants, enjoyed their learning and made good progress. That's a great basis to build on for this period of home schooling and we really are here to help you every step of the way to ensure your children continue to make progress and enjoy their learning. The teachers have been working hard to plan this term's work and adapt it to suit home schooling and they know your children really well. You will be able to have daily contact with them via Tapestry (Wrens) or Seesaw (Herons, Martins and Peacocks) and you can contact me via email (headteacher@chilham.kent.sch.uk) for any queries or concerns you may have as we all work together on this journey.

Next week, we aim to start using Zoom to provide further opportunities to support learning – more details about this will follow. I know that most of you and your children are confidently using our remote learning platforms (Tapestry or Seesaw) and the possibilities these provide to enhance learning are super. If you are experiencing any problems with either of these platforms, please don't hesitate to let us know and we will endeavour to find solutions.

We will be providing resource packs for each child – pencils, pens, sharpener, rubber, glue stick and some exercise books for them to present their work in when it is appropriate to do so. Many children like to work in books and on paper as well as on electronic devices and so we think it is important that they have access to these. We aim to have these resource packs ready for collection from school next week. We will notify you in due course of the collection date and times for these packs.

I do hope this gives you some reassurance. We might not be seeing you and your children every day **but we are here** to listen, guide and support you and we remain very much part of your children's lives.

My very best wishes to you all, keep safe, keep well and please keep in regular touch with us.

Headteacher

Love Trust Respect Honesty Forgiveness Perseverance



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