



27/03/2020

Dear Parents

I hope that this update finds you safe and well.

As I am sure you can appreciate, we will not be sending the usual weekly Oakleaf newsletters but I will endeavour to update you as often as I can with any developments in education and what this means for the children and their families of Meadow Vale Primary School.

The staff team continue to work hard to ensure that there are plenty of learning opportunities for your children to complete but I am sure you will have seen lots of opinions nationally on social media about the expectations of children working at home with their parents.

As a school, we hope that you will encourage your child to complete the work set for them, as this will really help them to settle back into school when the time is right. However, we are all trying to juggle a number of other pressures on our time as we try to fathom out a new way of working during these uncertain times. Please do not put unnecessary pressure on yourself or your children- your well-being is our priority.

The Local Authority have informed me this week of concerns that have been raised nationally regarding unsuitable adults posing as online tutors and have asked me to share this advice with you:

- Take time to monitor your child's online activity, even if you are busy working from home yourself
- Ensure your child is only using their school's online learning portals or established, trusted websites (for example, BBC Bitesize or Times Table Rock Stars)
- Not to respond to any offers of online tutoring from people you don't know, be it via email or social media, even if it has been shared by friends or contacts
- Remind children that strangers online are just like strangers in real life and that if anyone they don't know tries to contact them they should tell an adult
- Report anything suspicious to the Child Exploitation and Online Protection command (CEOP) via ceop.police.uk (there is also advice and guidance about reporting on this site)

From the school's perspective, and without any definitive guidance, we are starting to "settle" into the situation we find ourselves in and I do not anticipate that I will need to send out any updates over the course of the weekend to you. I can only apologise for the level of communication I needed to make with you last weekend.

If you do need to contact me, please do not hesitate to use my work email address head@meadowvaleprimary.com and I will endeavour to answer your queries. However, please do use the help@meadowvaleprimary.com for any learning-based questions you may have.

Best wishes

Catherine Forrester
Headteacher