St Lawrence CE Primary School Preston on the Weald Moors Telford, Shropshire TF6 6DH Tel: 01952 387780 a3091@telford.gov.uk



Mrs A Moore Head of School

Mrs R Nash Executive Headteacher h3091@telford.gov.uk

'Being the best we can be with God'

14th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Many thanks to you all for your engagement with SeeSaw, I know that myself and other teaching staff have found that most children are uploading work regularly and keeping in touch via this online platform. Following the letters we sent out and the amended guidance from the DfE about Key worker/vulnerable children places, we have found that some parents have reduced the amount of time their child/ren are accessing a place. Many thanks for your co-operation with this and supporting the national message of 'keep children at home if you can.' You can see the full guidance by clicking on the link <u>here</u>

I want to be as open and transparent as I can possibly be, and make you aware of the position of St. Lawrence and how it impacts on learning opportunities for pupils both at home and in school. We are the smallest primary school within the borough and operate mixed age classes, this means we only have one set of staff for each class in school. Some schools within the borough are much larger with two or even three form entry so they have up to three sets of staff including full-time teacher and support staff. I have heard of these larger schools utilising all members of staff; one teacher will be working in school with the key worker group, the other providing home school learning and the third member of staff developing online video support materials. As you can imagine, this is not possible for us and places us in the most challenging situation in this current climate. One teaching staff member is having to do all of it and plan for mixed age opportunities also. Thank you to those of you who have responded positively, it really does boost staff morale and let teachers know that the hard work and late night preparation and feedback to pupils is appreciated.

The St. Lawrence and Tibberton Federation, adopted the SeeSaw online approach for Remote Learning in the first lockdown as we felt it best suited our school community. We feel it is personal and allows the teacher to feel connected to the pupils with the ability to respond and give feedback quite quickly. I know that it has been highly praised by Telford and Wrekin Authority and more schools are beginning to use this in our second forced closure. We are always looking at ways to improve the offer and we hope that you have seen some significant improvements since our last forced lockdown.

We are aware that home learning presents certain challenges and we do understand that it can be difficult at times, particularly if you are working from home. Please be kind to yourselves, do what you feel you can and fits in with your personal circumstances and let us know if you need help. If you do require any stationary items such as exercise books, paper, pencils glue sticks please contact the school office and we will organise these for you so you can collect from















school.

We are aware that some children are missing their friends and teachers and the routines and structure of daily school life. With this in mind, we would like to offer a weekly 'Zoom' session to all our pupils whereby your child's class teacher will lead a Worship session and all class members will be invited to join online. We are hoping that this allows every child to see their class teacher and keep in touch with the school community. We will be emailing parents with the invites and just want to highlight that you will need to download 'zoom' on computers or phones to access the link. We will begin by offering the sessions on Wednesdays, this will start next week (20th January). Class 1 will be sent an invite for 10am, Class 2 will be invited at 11am and Class 3 will be invited to join at 2pm. The offer is optional but it would be nice to see as many of our pupils as we can. You will be sent a Parentmail shortly with further details.

Keep safe,

Mrs Alison Moore Head of School Mrs Rebecca Nash Executive Headteacher











