

Friday 22nd January 2021

Dear Kilmorie Community,

I can't believe we are at the end of week three. In some ways it seems to have sped by, while at the same time, I can't quite believe everything that has happened in amongst all the new directives from the government that are constantly changing our lives.

We have all been very impressed with the level of engagement from the children in our online learning provision and have heard stories of all the learning that you parents and carers have also been doing too – who would have thought this time a year ago, you would be experts in the part-whole model and the best placing for a subordinate clause to give the greatest impact to the reader! Joking aside, we know that many of you are not teachers and are juggling your own work commitments with trying to do a job you are not trained to do. I think you are all doing a fantastic job in these extremely difficult circumstances of not only the juggling, but also dealing with the mental and emotional stress of living through a pandemic. Let's also remember that every member of our community will have their own personal circumstances and individual challenges, often unknown to others, and it is crucial that we all have empathy for ourselves, our families and our colleagues to help us all get through this together.

We do continue to have high expectations for our children, but know that home circumstances may well get in the way of children always being able to complete everything to the timescale we are setting. Please don't worry about this. The deadlines are mainly there for the teachers as they have to have a cut off time in order to give opportunity to look at the day's work and begin to plan for the following day. If you hand work in 'late' this is fine, but we cannot guarantee there will be feedback given. Do also remember that feedback will not always be in written form. This may be given at the beginning of the following lesson or your child may be asked to do some self-assessment. All of these things are what we would also do in normal times. The quality of work being handed in is of a very good standard and children (and parents) should be very proud of yourselves. Keep up the good work.

Weekly timetables for children from Year 1 to Year 6 should be being sent to parents to help you plan for the week ahead – these will now also be shared on the website so if you can't find it you can always try there too. I also want to reassure you that our teachers are skilled at knowing what is right for the children in their class. Provision from school to school will look different and is often in line with the differences you will find between schools in normal times. Provision may well change and develop as we learn more about the platforms we have chosen to use and also as we get more adept at moving our skills to a digital platform. This week we had a fantastic staff meeting led by one of our very own Kilmorie parents, so look out for some updated ideas from our teachers. A MASSIVE thank you again to him and to all the parents who are offering their support and expertise at this time.

Although it may be tempting, I would urge you not to compare what children are being given to do in different year groups as learning may look different from year to year. Members of the senior leadership team will be popping in to lessons now and again. Amongst other things we will be looking to see if there is anything as a school we can do to improve the provision.

It is an expectation that all children who are able to should be logging on and/or completing daily activities. The school will contact families where there is no evidence of children completing learning. If your child has not been able to complete their work due to an issue you think the school could assist in, please do contact us.

You may have watched my assembly this morning where I introduced the Tate led project. I know many year groups have already started work on this, but I would like as many children to get involved as possible. When work has been completed, please send it to info@kilmorie.lewisham.sch.uk for the attention of Lisa who will collate it all and organise displays to be enjoyed when the children return to school.

Keep up the good work and be prepared to be tested on your newfound grammar knowledge the next time I see you!

Best wishes, Kate

KEEPING KILMORIE CHILDREN SAFE Please remember that it is not permitted to take screen shots, photos or recordings of any of the live or recorded sessions our school is providing to children or to share any recordings. We must ensure our community is safeguarded at all times.

SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT

Specialist dance lessons are continuing!

Each week all children from Reception to Year 4 have continued to receive live sessions from our contemporary dance teacher, while children in year 5 and 6 have street dance. Those children who are in school have been joining in, in the hall.

If you would like to send a short clip (10-15 seconds) of your child joining in, Daisy is keen to make a mash-up of these. Please send your clip to music@kilmorie.lewisham.sch.uk

APPEAL FOR DEVICES If you, or anyone (or an organisation) you know, have any spare devices (laptops, ipads in working condition) which are no longer of use and that can be donated to the school, we would be very grateful. It would help us to support some more of our families.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Please remember to apply for free school meals/pupil premium if your circumstances have changed, or to review your eligibility. This can be done via the [local authority's website](#) or [kilmorie website](#) under the Parent/School Dinner tab.

REMINDER FOR NURSERY APPLICATIONS

We are allocating nursery spaces for September 2021 and January 2022. All applications need to be received by the school by 31st January.

Click on the following link to apply online: [Kilmorie Nursery Application](#)

BLUE PETER ON YOUTUBE! See attached flyer giving details of Blue Peter's recent initiative on YouTube.

INSTRUMENT LESSONS – Payment Due

Payments for instrumental lessons for the spring term are on Parent Pay. Please settle by Friday 12th February. Thank you.

OFFICE ENQUIRIES AND HOURS The office staff work hard to support you and respond to your questions and queries. Currently the office hours have been revised this term to 8am until 4pm. Our busiest time is 8-9.30am in the morning, lunchtime and 2.45pm to 4pm. We are also working with a limited number of staff. Please be patient as we do everything as quickly as we can.

If it is not an urgent enquiry, please consider calling the office during other times in the day or send an email to info@kilmorie.lewisham.sch.uk

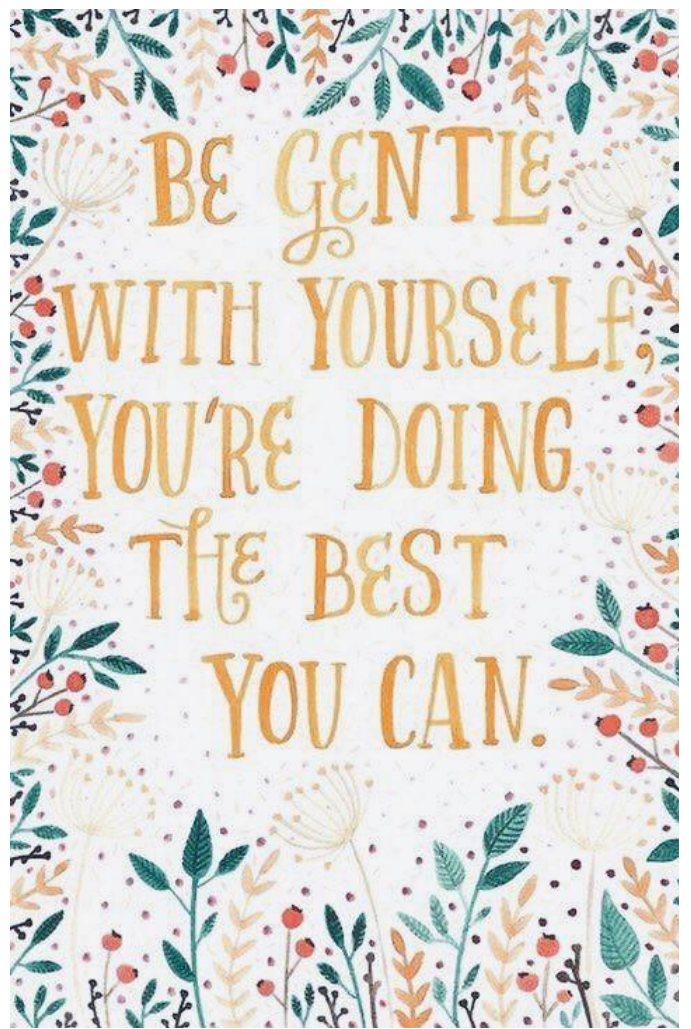
In line with all public establishments, we operate zero tolerance for any abusive behaviour.

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

As we head towards the fourth week of the second lockdown we thought you might find the link to Place2Be useful. Click [here](#) to find out about supporting your children's mental health. There are also links to many other agencies that you might find useful. Remember to look after yourself too, the way you speak to yourself matters, do it with kindness.



Children's Mental Health week is 1-7th February



FOR THE FOREST HILL PARENTS!

Newsflash from se23 mums:

If you have a primary or secondary school pupil with no access to a printer, **Winkworths**, estate agents, are offering to print your schoolwork for **free**. Email them at: foresthill@winkworth.co.uk