

WOODS PRIMARY SCHOOL 38 Oaklea Road MAGHERAFELT Co Londonderry BT45 6HX

PRINCIPAL: Mrs K White
Tel: 028 79418415
Fax: 028 79418905
Email: info@woods.magherafelt.ni.sch.uk

14 January 2021

Dear Parents

I hope that you are all keeping well during this time of school closure and lockdown. We have nearly completed our first whole week of home learning. I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for the hard work you are doing with your children at home. It is so important to keep your child's mind stimulated and ensure that learning progresses over the coming weeks. More than ever we need to ensure an effective partnership exists between home and school. The staff are working hard to develop online activities to help your child to progress with their learning from home.

We appreciate that this is a challenging time for everyone, juggling working from home and encouraging your children to keep up to date with their learning tasks. I trust you are all coping and feel supported by our school. If you are having any issues regarding home learning, please do phone the school and a member of staff will be happy to chat to you to resolve matters as quickly as possible.

We are open for supervised learning in school for vulnerable pupils and children of keyworkers. A registration form will be sent to all families each week to enable parents to request this supervision for the following week. Please note that this is in place for families who have no alternative child care arrangements. We also want to remind all families that if anyone in the household has symptoms of COVID 19 then your child SHOULD NOT ATTEND SCHOOL UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. The safety of the staff and other pupils is paramount.

We all need to do our bit to reduce contacts with others and try to help reduce the spread of COVID 19. The safest place at this time is to stay at home and follow government guidance. We trust that by following the rules diligently we will stay safe and be able to get our schools re-opened after half term.

Please log on daily to the Seesaw App and check the school website 'Home Learning' section at the beginning of each week to follow your class teacher's instructions regarding your child's home learning. We would also recommend that you share a minimum of one completed activity with your class teacher per school day to show that your child is learning from home. The Department of Education has instructed that each class teacher needs to continue to complete SIMS attendance daily. If your child's class teacher has not received completed activities from your child via the Seesaw App they will have to record an unauthorized attendance. If teachers see evidence of home learning, your child will receive an authorized attendance mark. This is the department of education's guidance to schools. If there is no evidence of learning over a period of 2 weeks, then the child will be referred to the Education and Welfare Team. Therefore, it is important to keep in touch with the class teacher regularly.

As always we are here to help you to support your child. The school email will be checked frequently should you require assistance. In the meantime, we hope that you and your families will all stay safe and well.

Best regards

K White Principal