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## January Lockdown Newsletter #1

Dear Parents

### Happy New Year!

Welcome to 2021 at Droxford Junior School! We hope you had an enjoyable, relaxing Christmas holiday. Firstly, before we move on, I wanted to thank everyone who helped the children with our lovely 'virtual' Christmas Service and '12 Days of Christmas' performance – to all the staff and especially David Burgess with his piano accompaniment and Mr Banham for his video / editing skills! We all feel very proud to be working here at our lovely school.

### Spring Lockdown.

I have to admit this wasn't the intended newsletter for January – this is a rewrite from the one I prepared in the holidays!

Again, I want to thank everyone for their collective efforts recently. To get the school fully staffed and open on Monday for all children and then turned around in one evening for Critical worker and vulnerable child families + remote learning for all is something I am very proud that we achieved; with very little notice or external support or useful guidance.



There are lots of challenges to overcome still, as the whole school community moves forward and gets used to new ways of working - we will overcome these challenges with patience and communication.

One of these obstacles will be technology and using Google Classrooms for those at home. It won't take long though before you are all experts!

Class Dojo has been so useful as is Google Classrooms.

All the information you need in terms of remote learning can be found here:

<http://droxfordjunior.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Google-Classrooms-%E2%80%93-A-quick-how-to-guide-for-children-and-parents.pdf>



## New guidance from the DfE

I finally received guidance (yesterday evening), from the Government as to how to manage our school through this latest national lockdown. Messages are very similar as before especially with safety.



We almost have definitive lists now for the numbers of children who will be in school as children from critical worker / vulnerable child families.

This has enabled us to organise our classes in to smaller group sizes starting next week. The groups will be consistent. Children in school will follow the same curriculum as those at home and will not mix with other 'bubbles'.

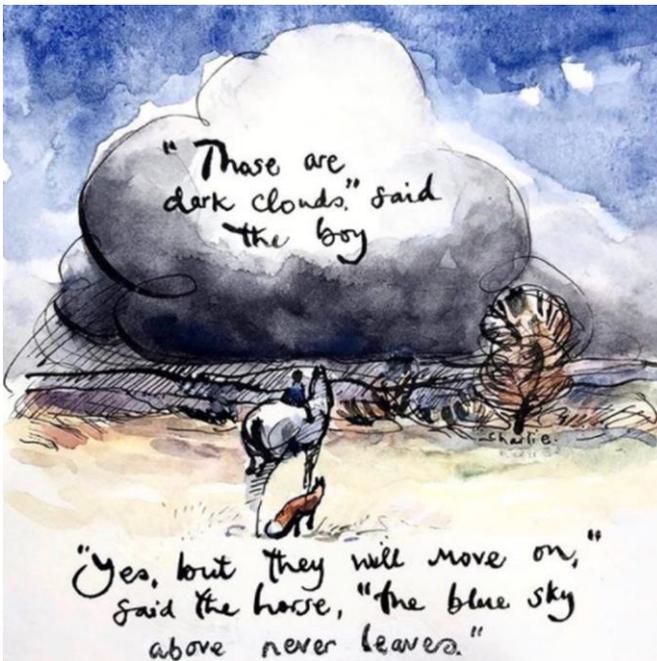
We have started our Free School Meal food parcels already and have successfully implemented our laptop loan scheme again.

Our Breakfast Club is still running safely and successfully but after school clubs won't take place for the time being.

In the next two weeks, we will be launching a new reading book service, having teamed up with Hampshire Library Service. This will entitle all our children to access e-books that can be read / viewed on devices at home.

## Wellbeing of all...

I am mindful that it has been very tricky for all and that we have bombarded you with so much information this week. Thank you for your time and patience.



We have already overcome many challenges in the previous nine months – we are well placed to do so again.

The staff at this school are highly committed, creative and talented and will do their utmost for all children to achieve!

Once again I wish you all a very **Happy and successful New Year!**

Yours sincerely

Matthew Dampier  
Headteacher



**'Equipping our children with the knowledge and skills to navigate life successfully.'**