

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

To the most important people at Castle Hill Primary School... our children,

Hello. We wanted to write to you all and wish you good luck whether you are at Rooksdown Campus or working at home at the Virtual School. If you were feeling a little bit sad or worried on Friday that is ok, in fact it was to be expected. It was a strange day for us all; for the teachers and PTPs, your parents and us. Shutting the school was the hardest thing we have ever had to do and made us feel sad too! Remember our new motto; Sensible and Sensitive. You have all been both and we thank you very much.

We hope you had a good weekend and could talk to your mums and dads about the changes ahead. We also hope you made your mums feel special on Sunday. Monday morning here at Rooksdown is very different and very quiet. We miss you all. Please work with your parents like you would with teachers, calmly and positively. We think your parents are fantastic and remember they were your first, and are your most, important teachers.

We know some of you have woken up this morning and put on sweatshirts to help you stay in routine. Even if you did not, please look at your school badge and read the words - 'Castle Hill Team'. That is what we are, a team wherever you are during the day, school or home... together everyone achieves more. Stay safe.

From Mr Martin and Ms Willmouth

Dear Parents and Friends of Castle Hill

Thank you for all your support and kind messages over the past week and weekend. They really made a difference to us and the team. We wanted to write to the children as they have been so grown up and adopted our new motto, 'Sensible and Sensitive'. Thank you for keeping the vast majority of children at home where we need them to be. We are hopeful that the preparation done by our teachers and IT Lead, Mr Smith, means that you have activities ready for the children to complete both online and offline. If there are glitches with passwords and log-ins please bear with us and we will try and sort these out as soon as we can.

STOP PRESS: We have just had a look at ClassDojo, Seesaw and Google Classroom and we can see children are submitting work. Huge thanks, well done and what a great start to a very unusual week. If it is ok with you all we will share, anonymously, children's work via the website and Twitter.

We have said it here at school and say it to you, we are all in uncharted waters at this time and need to show support and understanding to each other. We will keep you up-to-date of relevant information through the usual channels. The latest guidance to parents and carers is available on our website or follow this link <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

For now, please stay safe and follow the guidance.

Kindest regards

Mr Martin, Ms Willmouth and The Castle Hill Team