

Orchard School Bristol

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INSPIRE TODAY, EMPOWER FOR LIFE

Headteacher: Mrs Julia Hinchliffe **MA (Hons), MA, NPQH**

29 January 2021

Dear parents and carers

We are now four weeks into lockdown and the government has now said we may be returning to a more normal school day at some point from March 8th. This means that we have at least four more weeks of remote learning to go, with half term in the middle of this.

Thank you

Thank you for managing through this week. We recognise that it is a challenging time and the whole staff body is incredibly impressed by all of our parents and carers and how well you are doing to keep the focus on your children learning.

Thank you for all your support for what we are trying to achieve as a school, too. The staff team are working really hard to help, and in the last four weeks of lockdown this has included:

- Improving Remote Learning with high quality lessons delivered with a live start – or longer – to keep students engaged
- Arranging for Critical Keyworker/Vulnerable Children to learn remotely within the school building
- Continuing with additional support for students, remotely if necessary, including reading support, numeracy groups, speech & language therapy, emotional/mental health support and counselling
- Provision of over 300 laptops for students to learn with at home
- Arranging dongles too to help with internet access
- Ensuring Free School Meals parcels and vouchers are allocated smoothly
- Running parents evenings and keeping in touch if we have concerns about your child's learning
- Making over 900 individual wellbeing calls for students – via phone/Teams – every week (our intention is that every student has a call every week)
- Sending attendance emails on a weekly basis to give you an idea of your child's attendance to lessons
- Contacting students with additional needs regularly through the week, often daily, to help them access their work
- Ongoing Covid testing on a weekly basis
- Visiting homes to support where parents/carers may be struggling more

Our next aim is to arrange for free period products to be provided for girls who may find this beneficial.

Parent Survey – please read on!



We would like to know if you are happy with our provision, or if there is more you think we could be doing.

I have been asked by two parents recently if it would be OK for them to add a review of the school online, eg. Google. This is absolutely fine of course, but we would really appreciate it if you could complete the survey below, so we can respond to your feedback. If there are any thank yous you would like to give to particular staff, there is an opportunity to do this as well. Please click on the link below:

[Parent Survey Jan Feb 2021](#)

Thank you for completing this short survey (10 questions) by Tuesday 2 February.

With my best wishes for a good weekend.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J Hinchliffe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Julia Hinchliffe, Headteacher