



Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

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Dear Parents,

*The single most important action we can all take is to stay at home.*

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>

Please read the government guidance carefully; it explains what you can and cannot do during the national lockdown. It is the law. Parents must not organise social play dates or sleep-overs for the children. Whilst childcare bubbles are allowed, you must not meet socially with your childcare bubble. If the police are called to a social gathering you risk being issued with a fine of £800; the penalty will apply for groups of more than 15 people and will double after each offence.

#### Schools Re-opening

As you are already aware, the Government announced that it will not be possible to resume face-to-face learning immediately after the February half-term and instead hopes it will be safe to commence the reopening of schools and colleges from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. This is in response to the national public health data and pressure on NHS capacity. Education settings, as well as students, parents and carers will be given at least two weeks' notice to prepare for a return to face-to-face education; we will update parents when we have further information.

#### Zoom

Currently, the teachers are hosting one zoom a week and myself and/or Mr Troy are hosting additional sessions. These Zoom meetings are to encourage and foster a sense of belonging and community.

In response to the announcement that the lockdown is being extended, the school is revising its remote learning offer to increase the direct contact between the class teachers and the pupils. In addition to the current Zooms, starting from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February the teachers will be hosting daily morning registration Zooms for the classes. The teachers will use this time to take the register and briefly explain the activities for the day; a separate letter with information about these sessions will be sent out to parents next week.

Can we please remind parents to discuss the Code of Conduct (which can be found here: <https://www.st-theresas.barnet.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Provision-of-Remote-Education-at-St.-Therasas-January-2021.pdf>) with their children; it must be adhered to during any Zoom session. When joining a Zoom session, please follow the link the teacher has uploaded (or copy and paste it into your browser); you will be prompted to type in a name – please type in your child's name. This is to ensure your child is allowed entry into the meeting room. **If the member of staff does not recognise the child's name, they will not be allowed access to the session.**

#### Children's Mental Health Week

This week was Children's Mental Health Week. The week, set up by the children's mental health charity Place2Be, aims to shine a spotlight on the importance of children's and young people's mental health. This year's theme was "Express Yourself" and I have particularly enjoyed looking



at some of the art work the children have uploaded onto Seesaw. Some examples of the children's art work can be viewed on the school's Twitter account - please do go and have a look.

Place2Be have created a leaflet with some tips for parents to support their children; it can be found on their website. <https://www.place2be.org.uk/about-us/children-s-mental-health-week/>

### **Half Term 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February is half term and the teachers will not be uploading any activities onto Seesaw. We will resume the remote learning when we return to school on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

### **School communication with parents**

Members of the support staff are currently phoning parents; these phone calls are to see how families are getting on during the lockdown and if there is anything the school can do to support you further.

Please remember that all letters from the school are posted onto the school website on the *Newsletters* page (<https://www.st-theresas.barnet.sch.uk/calendar/newsletters/>).

## *Learners of the Week*



Reception	<b>Faith:</b> for expressing herself so well through dance.
Year 1	<b>Emily:</b> for producing great sentences using her phonics, and having-a-go at all the learning this week.
Year 2	<b>Lucas:</b> for working hard and continually striving for excellence in all of the subjects
Year 3	<b>Krissy:</b> for always giving 100% in all the tasks set.
Year 4	<b>Sofia:</b> for continuing to share her learning on Seesaw.
Year 5	<b>Rio:</b> for the high quality and beautifully presented learning he consistently sends Miss Georgious.
Year 6	<b>Daniel:</b> for some excellent writing during the Y6 biography unit in English.

Do contact me if you have any further questions – and keep yourselves safe.

Thank you,

Barbara Costa

Barbara Costa  
Executive Headteacher