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THE GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
The Catholic Diocese of Northampton
"Following Jesus, The Good Shepherd, in all we say and do"

Friday, 08 January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well what can we say? What a week! I cannot apologise enough. Late government changes and an issue with our gas supply on site has meant that we have yet again been parachuted into a different way of learning almost immediately.

Due to the various disruptions this week, we will allow families and children to establish some routines and from next Wednesday, we shall begin monitoring absences. The government expectation is that children should have on average up to three hours learning for KS1 and four hours a day on average if they are in KS2. We will expect children to be engaged in the online learning which has been set by their class teacher or completing the work on site if they are accessing the in-school provision for "critical workers" and "vulnerable" children.

Where we see children are not engaged, we will be contacting parents to discuss their circumstances and at this time, we may be able to support with technical challenges or a lack of ICT equipment.

We have already been able to support fourteen families by having our old teacher laptops refurbished and given on loan to them where there are several school age children and not enough devices. We have put out requests on the "Spotted Kingsthorpe" and "Spotted Duston" Facebook pages asking for donations of any old devices to be dropped off to school. As more become available, we will then be in a position to distribute over the weeks ahead.

Thank you each and every one for your patience, support and kindness. Without this, we could not have got through this week. Please do not put pressure on yourselves. It will be up to our teachers to close gaps in pupils learning when we all return to school. All you can do is your best and that will be good enough. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

We will resume our virtual newsletters next week.

The in-school provision for "critical workers" and "vulnerable" children will be open on Monday 11th January 2021.

Yours sincerely,

Carmel Dodds
Headteacher



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