



Dear Parents,

Welcome to this weeks St Catherine's update.

Thank you for uploading the children's learning onto Tapestry and for getting in touch to let us know what your child has been doing. The staff have enjoyed responding to the updates.

We hope that your child has enjoyed and benefited from the Teaching Blogs that have been uploaded onto Purplemash this week. The teachers and support staff have enjoyed responding to children's work on the 2DoLists and on the class blogs.

Please ensure your child is aware of this facility especially if they are in the upper year groups and are working independently.

We have been informed by Purplemash that to cope with the increased traffic and avoid interruptions to their service, the number on the alerts bell isn't always visible. The notifications number is currently disabled, but please still click on the alert icon to check your notifications manually. We don't want the children thinking we haven't responded to their work! We know our feedback is so important to them.

As you know from previous school communications, there is an expectation for the Tapestry activities and the Purplemash 2DoLists to be completed each week, but if whatever reason they are not all completed don't worry, - as long as there is some input on Tapestry or Purplemash from your child each week we are reassured that your child is well and is having access to learning while at home.

If you are struggling or feeling a little overwhelmed Starline - a national helpline has been set up for parents struggling with home schooling and managing child behaviour during COVID -19.

Free confidential advice is available 6 days a week by phoning the Starline Team on 0330 313 9162.

Starline will also be broadcasting a weekly programme on Youtube, sharing practical ideas for home learning.

Further details can be found on the Starline website <http://www.starline.org.uk> or follow @StarlineSupport on Twitter.

We appreciate that this is a stressful time for parents and in response to this we will continue to provide you with information on how you can create a home life where children are safe and happy and have access to learning.

If there have been any changes in your home circumstances please get in touch with the school. We may be able to help and provide you with advice and support from other professional agencies.

If your work position has been affected by the pandemic your child may now be eligible for free school meals. Please get in touch with Mrs McKenzie the school Business Manager who will check if your position qualifies for support. Please email office@stcatherines.barnetmail.net

For further updates during the week please follow @StCatherinesEN5 on Twitter.

Please note next Friday 8th May 2020 is a bank holiday and the school will be closed for childcare and online learning. Staff will resume their work on Monday 11th May. If your child submits their 2DoList tasks by Thursday 7th May 12pm the staff will endeavour to provide feedback on your child's learning before the bank holiday.

We hope you and the children get to have a rest in the bank holiday weekend too.

In the meantime have a lovely weekend.

Take care of yourselves and each other

Best wishes

St Catherine's School