

WOODLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL: HEADTEACHER'S BLOG – 08/01/21

Happy New Year, although for the SLT there was little break at all so 2020 and 2021 has merged into one long nightmare – You will be sick of reading missives from me, if not sick of me full stop, and I am therefore delighted to share the first 'Guest Blog' of the week for you, written by one of our parents.

If you would like to write a guest blog, please submit to the editor (me! Lol) by Friday morning ☺

If you were up early today, you may have heard me interviewed on BBC Radio Merseyside talking about school and other issues.... The link is here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p091cqxy> ... You'll need to scroll along until you hit 1:08mins (approx.) after the show starts. I will be on the Politics North West show in Sunday at 10am on BBC1 HD. Sadly, as a direct result of isolating over Christmas and now the lockdown, I will probably look like a hobo in HD but that is beside the point!

Have a great 'Lockdown' weekend – please, please stay home and stay safe. If reports of the situation in the Countess of Chester are true, then this is much nearer than we think....

We are used to receiving the Headteacher's Blog each Friday, but we have a feeling that Dr Carr may be a little too busy to do this during lockdown?! So we have decided to do our own Parent's Blog. Here we go...

One week down, ? to go...

So, things I have learnt this week...

My Early childhood studies degree (from 2007) is NOT necessarily going to help to me now!

My degree in policing (from 2010) is CERTAINLY NOT going to help me now!

My six year old daughter is considerably better on the laptop than I am!

My six year old daughter does not need my help as much as I thought she did (happily working through her work online, submitting it and commenting all by herself).

My six year old daughter goes to a fantastic school, with the best teachers, FACT.

We have been through this before. My daughter is in the mixed year 1/2 class that had two weeks of remote learning back in November. On that occasion we had to put our Christmas decorations up to soften the blow, after telling her that she couldn't go to school for two weeks as she was devastated (I really didn't think the thought of having Mum as a teacher for a fortnight would have such an effect on her!) So how will she cope for anything up to six weeks? We'll see.

What do we think of remote learning so far?

So far, so good.

Luckily our daughter LOVES to learn so the remote learning is not a chore, she's set herself up a little office similar to Dad's (who is working from home) and she's there, just before 9am each day, waiting for her register. One morning she thought it was hilarious as she did the register and her first two lessons in her pyjamas! She is genuinely excited for the day ahead.

The organisation of the remote learning is top notch.

We like the 'plan of action' for the morning and afternoon lessons. Knowing what I, sorry my daughter, is going to learn about in each session is perfect.

The teacher's enthusiasm for each subject comes through, even just in the instructions that accompany each power point.

If we have any issues, these are easily sorted out with a quick comment or email to the teacher.

Of course, we have no doubt that our daughter would benefit from being taught by her qualified teacher, with the

correct resources, in a classroom with all of her friends, no doubt at all, but we also have no doubt that any decisions regarding remote learning, school closure etc taken by the Woodlands senior management team is done so with our daughters and the staff's health, welfare and educational wellbeing at the forefront, unlike any decision Mr Johnson or Mr Williamson may, or may not make! (Is it bad that our six year old daughter refers to BoJo as 'that buffoon with the bad hair'?)

Mrs Williams, Miss Sayce and two other teachers Mrs Watts and Mrs Lonsdale who I don't know, we thank you, we appreciate you, keep up the good work (and we will too!)

Thanks,

Claire, David and Heidi

P.S. Heidi is missing saying 'Good morning' to Mrs Liversey each day...