



Raysfield Primary

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FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 2nd February

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am sure, like me, you are keenly watching the news for any sign of when schools will reopen to our children. Once deemed safe, we will warmly welcome your children back – we have missed them this term! Although we are seeing many of our children, it is not quite the same as when school life operates in a normal way. We are anticipating hearing some news towards the end of February and as soon as we have a safe strategy, we will share this with you.

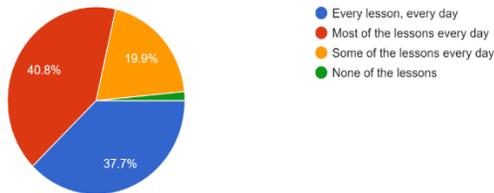
In the meantime, remote learning continues...

It was fantastic to see so many of you at the Learner of the Week assembly last Friday, I do hope you all enjoyed being together, albeit virtually! I wanted to let you all know that the children who are in school are also taking part in Learner of the Week and the staff running the onsite bubbles are celebrating their best efforts with them all the time.

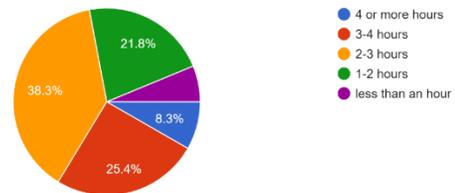
At Raysfield, we have appreciated your feedback on our remote learning offer and thank all of you who gave up some time to help us improve our service. The results were very positive and our teaching team did appreciate hearing all the great comments, as it has been a steep learning curve for us too.

We received 194 responses in total and here are some of the results:

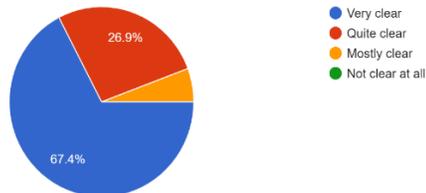
How often is your child engaging in the remote learning offer?
191 responses



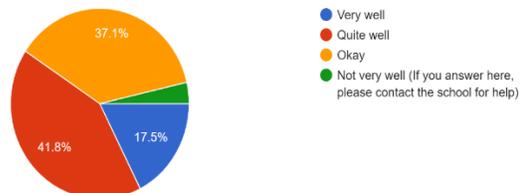
On average, how many hours does your child spend on their remote learning?
193 responses



How clear is the work your child's teacher sets for them?
193 responses



From your observations, how well do you feel your child is coping with the current situation?
194 responses



The information we have taken from the survey has helped us to make a few improvement tweaks to our remote learning offer. These are detailed in the table below:

As a parent community, you said...

As a school, we say...

We would like the learning videos to be posted the night before so we can view them before 9:00 in the morning.

We will upload our videos in advance (by 6pm the previous day) to Google Classrooms.

We would like more Live lessons. There were a few reasons you would like these:

- *To motivate your children*
- *To help children understand learning concepts and help with misconceptions.*
- *To keep children engaged without parents needing to explain the videos.*

We made a decision to record English and Maths lessons to enable parents to share these videos when it suited them. English and Maths lessons follow a sequence for the week and therefore making one of them 'live' would not work.

However, during our staff meeting this week we will discuss what we can do to make live lessons earlier in the day to motivate learning or use one of them as an opportunity for children to ask questions about their learning.

Links to Live lessons will be posted earlier now we have our Video Conferencing Policy in place.

Could we use the same platform for everything related to learning?

We understand that having all the learning in once place would be easier, and therefore we will make the following changes:

- *Welcome videos will be uploaded to Google Classrooms.*
- *On Wednesdays Pick and Mix activities from a range of foundation subjects will be shared on Google Classrooms.*
- *The link to Learner of the Week assembly will be on Google Classrooms.*

When the teacher gives feedback, can it be encouraging and specific so my child knows what to do next?

Positive comments will be posted on work and clear next steps will be given, where appropriate. These will be in the form of a question or ask your child to complete something.

Our teachers are highly skilled and have a good knowledge of what your children can and cannot do so please trust that they would not ask something of them that was unachievable. Learning to do something takes time and practice; we encourage our children to repeat skills in order to improve them.

My child can lack motivation, how can we encourage them to do their work?

We will use Learner of the Week certificates and dojo points to promote and celebrate effort. We will be having a 'Live' Learner of the Week assembly every Friday at 10:00 and the link to this will be shared on Google Classrooms.

*Teachers will be using dojo points to encourage pupils' **effort** levels and improve any fading motivation. Teachers have already been sending additional messages to children to check in with them and in some cases, phone calls and additional meetings have been set up where children have not been engaging in lessons. If you believe your child would benefit from additional support, please do let your class teacher know, a word of reassurance from them might be all it takes to keep up the momentum.*

Please do remember your child is approaching the end of term, even when we are in school they can become more tired and lack motivation at this point.

All of these tweaks will happen over the next few days so please bear with us as we make these changes.

Finally, last week the Video Conferencing Policy was emailed to all parents and we are expecting everyone to adhere to the protocols we set out in the policy. There is a particular statement I would like to draw your attention to: 'Please do not take screen shots of live video calls'. We do not want any of our children to appear on social media without their parents or carers consent so please respect this advice.

Testing, testing, testing

I thought you would all be keen to know that we are committed to working safely and therefore started our testing regime last week. The vast majority of our team have signed up to taking a test twice a week and so far this has helped all of us feel more reassured about coming to work in the firm knowledge we are not carrying COVID without symptoms.

Spread a smile 😊

Finally, I would like to end the newsletter with some photographs of some very happy young people who, no matter what is going on around them, are having a great time – a brilliant reminder to us all to enjoy each moment 😊



Many thanks for your continued support - Mrs Hill and Team Raysfield ☺

www.raysfield.org.uk