

ABBAY ACADEMIES TRUST
Executive Headteacher: Mrs S J Moore

6th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

WOW!!!! What an amazing first day both in school and with home learning. I am so very proud of all our children, staff, parents and carers.

It has been wonderful to see many of our fabulous children from Bourne Elsea Park and Colsterworth with us here with our Bourne Abbey children today. There are also lots of staff in from Colsterworth, Bourne Elsea Park and Bourne Abbey and all children in school quickly settled into their exciting learning this morning. What is incredibly special about our Trust is that we always work closely as a Trust family. Indeed many of our teachers have worked in more than one of our schools these past few years and so the children recognised many familiar faces. The children were able to make new friends in their bubbles and we are truly impressed with ALL of our children's courage coming into school during this latest COVID lockdown.

I checked in on all the children today, as did our Senior Leaders, and it has been lovely to see them doing the Seesaw learning which the children have also been doing today at home. We have seen many lovely videos and photographs which you have sent to us from home and this is incredibly special to all the teachers and TAs who have been working hard with the online learning.

Thank you for the lovely emails many of you have sent saying thank you about Seesaw. Many thanks also if you have contacted us by email with any worries you have, including online learning. Mrs Buttress, Mr Bellamy, Mrs Jordan and I have felt it important to contact those parents/carers personally or the class teachers have been in touch as soon as possible to offer support. Can we ask that if you have any worries about home learning, that you email school rather than comment on your child's Seesaw account. We appreciate, due to your own challenging circumstances at home, that you may not get all the day's online learning completed during each school day. The children do need to complete their learning and staff will be giving daily feedback to work submitted online up until 5pm. Please don't worry though, as they will respond to any learning submitted after this time the following day.

Thank you for your positivity this morning and after school with the new drop off and collection arrangements. We did receive some useful feedback. Please can we remind parents/carers to wear face masks if you are able and that only one parent/carer per family should drop off and collect each day. Please can we ask you to socially distance as much as possible before the gates are open. We will ensure staff are out promptly so that we can try to lessen the crocodile queue down Abbey Road. As ever, we reflect daily on what we have put in place and it may be that we need a staggered start to the day. As today was the first day, we would like to continue the current arrangements tomorrow and will let you know of any changes if we make them.

If your child is in Year 5 or Year 6 and you give permission for them to walk home on their own, please let the school office know in writing.

We know the children are already enjoying having a more personal approach to online home learning this lockdown. As I have said previously, the children's mental health and well-being is important to us so please can I stress that if you feel your child needs extra pastoral support, contact school and we can easily arrange a phone call.

Thank you once again to you and your children for the magnificent efforts both at home and in school today. We are overwhelmed with the levels of energy and enthusiasm that everyone has shown since Monday evening. This positivity is certainly giving me and Senior Leaders the strength to sail through these uncharted coronavirus waters.

As ever, please let us know via email your thoughts and suggestions from today.

Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S J Moore', written in a cursive style.

Mrs S J Moore
Executive Headteacher