I hope this finds everyone well after week 3 of remote learning. I know this is a really difficult time for everyone but I just wanted to say again that our pupils are doing a great job and this is down to the support they have at home from parents/carers. It's not an easy task, particularly if you are continuing to work from home as many of us are and trying to ensure that your child hands in the work set on Google Classroom. Many of our staff are also supporting their own children whilst providing remote learning for yours and are spinning many plates. Believe me, it's not any easier for teachers at home, trying to engage their own children! So if you need to have an afternoon in front of the TV, or out for a walk, or if your child has spent a little longer than they normally would on an x-box then that's ok. Learning is of course of the utmost importance but learning doesn't happen in environments when people are feeling stressed or unhappy so it's even more important to ensure that we're all looking after our wellbeing at this time.

Some of you have asked for clarification on feedback from the class teacher within the Google Classroom environment. You'll be aware that teachers can comment on work and your child will receive a comment from time to time. However, it's not feasible or sustainable for teachers to comment on every piece of work submitted as this takes a huge amount of time that is just not currently available. Written or recorded feedback will be given if required eg if a child had misunderstood a concept or if there are obvious next steps to be considered for future learning. In school there would be lots of peer assessment and self-assessment and the Learning Intentions and Success Criteria set by teachers will help children to do this. I have asked all staff to ensure that when a piece of work is submitted then they click the *Return* button, this means that the work has been seen. This may not be done on the day it is submitted, as pupils are submitting at various times throughout the week. If your child has two teachers working in a job-share situation, this may not be done until that teacher returns to work the following week. Please be assured that everything in the Google Classroom is seen by the teachers setting the work and my Depute Head Teachers and I also have an overview. Our staff are working exceptionally hard and I'm incredibly proud of the effort and creativity going into providing our remote learning provision.

We've received some really positive feedback on the learning provided and will be sending a questionnaire home in the next few days to gather further thoughts from parents/carers.

## P7 Hoodies.

Mrs Turner has been in touch with p7 parents directly but I wanted to remind you that the facility for ordering P7 hoodies online will be live from the 1st of February.

A reminder that school will be closed for the mid-term holiday and In Service days on Monday 15<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> of February. There will be no online learning or childcare on these dates.

That's all for this week, we look forward in anticipation to any new announcements from Scottish Government next week.

Take care and stay safe.

Mrs D Reid (Head Teacher)

