

Friday 29th January 2021

Headteacher – Mr Mark Stenton

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Dear Parents and Carers,

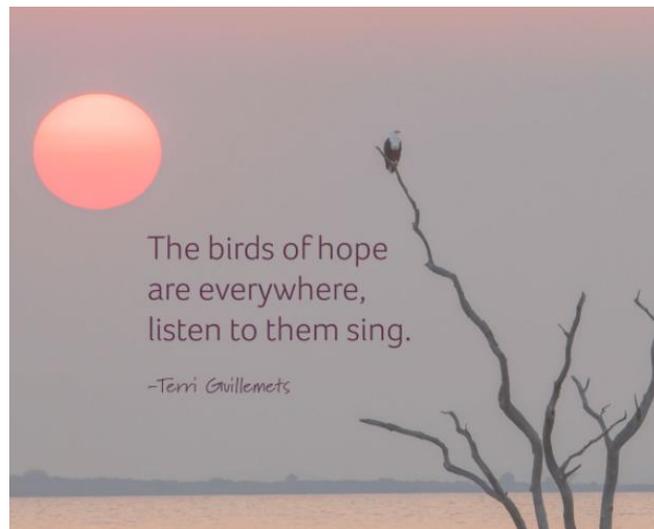
Week four of the lockdown and all we can do is say a huge thank you, again, for your continued support. The many messages of thanks we have received are so encouraging for all in the team - thank you.

We are also very aware of how tough this is. Everyone wants this to end, we're all feeling the strain, it is a truly unique pressure on every family. At times, we're responding to problems never faced before, and sometimes we get it wrong. Apologies for when we do at school - it will happen. As I said earlier this week, I got a message wrong, listened to concerns and changed the message the same day. We will and do listen.

The current situation suggests we have at least four more weeks of this; a fortnight to half-term then two weeks until the 8th March. It is likely that we will find out at the end of the half-term break whether or not we're opening fully again on the 8th March. Let's truly hope so – provided the transmission rates make that safe. In the meantime, I'm going to say the same thing to parents that we've been saying in school - this is the 'art of the possible' and there needs to be realism around what can be achieved. It truly is a time when all you can do is try your best – it will be good enough.

And what you're all achieving is truly good enough. We are seeing fantastic engagement and beautiful examples of the children's learning across the board. Please be really proud of this – you should be. We will come out of this stronger as a community with much learned. In the meantime, be kind to yourselves and stay safe. I can foresee a lovely summer term for the children with some semblance of normality and a great deal of pressure relieved on all of us. It's not too far away.

Here's a quote we shared as a staff a couple of weeks ago – because better days will come:



Warm regards

Mark Stenton
Headteacher

INSET DAYS: 7TH JUNE 2021

**Please send comments or feedback feedback@themead.wilts.sch.uk
Paper copies of this newsletter are available from the school office.**

IF YOU REQUIRE THIS IN LARGE TEXT OR ANOTHER LANGUAGE PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE



Home Learning

This week, we published detailed information about our Home Learning provision, which sets out what children, parents and carers can expect from remote education across The Mead Academy Trust when national or local restrictions require individuals, year group bubbles or the whole school to remain at home. It covers everything from how much work will be set, to how our teachers will feedback on work being done at home, to how we are supporting children who have additional needs. You can read it on our website here: <https://www.themeadtrust.org/learning/curriculum/home-learning/>

We have also continued to update our #LockdownLearning gallery, and now have over 150 photos in it! We want to gather pictures of what our children and their families are doing whilst they are learning at home, and would love to see what you have been up to. It might be a snap of your child taking part in a live lesson, but it could be anything – we know that lots of you are baking, doing painting, going for (chilly!) walks, and much more! You can share your photos with us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/themeadtrust>) and twitter (<https://twitter.com/TheMeadTrust>) and then they will be added to our collection here: <https://www.themeadtrust.org/lockdown-learning/>