



Hillstone News

Did you watch our assembly this week? It was about finding happiness and what bring you joy - don't forget to enter Ms Norton's happiness art competition. When I listened to the government announcement yesterday I felt full of joy. We can have all our children back from 8th March - I cannot wait! I know we have to wait longer for some of our longed for milestones; meeting up with friends and relatives, going to the hairdresser, going to the pub but at least we have dates to work toward. There is also an incentive to ensure that everyone follows the rules, if infection rates and hospitalisations are kept down then those dates will be adhered to. To this end I want to say something about keeping children at home if they are poorly. Any of you who have known me for the last 20 years will know that this is the very opposite of how I have always been but, it does seem that there are so many varied symptoms that we just should not take the risk. If your child is poorly please keep them at home, rather than sending them in to school and risk infecting others and having to close a whole year group.

I will publish new risk assessments in the next couple of days ready for the full reopening. Meanwhile, it is important that children continue to go on to virtual school daily. The teachers launched lovely new topics yesterday and we will be two weeks into those topics by the time all the children return on 8th March. But this is not just about the academic work that the children will have missed out on. When children returned last summer we noticed a difference in their behaviour too. They had forgotten their 'school persona', how to socialise with friends, they no longer had the stamina to do a whole days' learning, some were out of the habit of proper bedtimes. I would recommend spending the next two weeks getting them back in to routine. Don't forget if you need additional devices contact us. To encourage children, Mr King has created the Hillstone's Home Learning Heroes...

HILLSTONE'S...

HOME-LEARNING HEROES

We understand how challenging home-learning can be, and whilst we have done all we can providing the resources to help teach your children, we know it can be hard at times - but lots of you have done amazingly well and we think you and your children should receive the recognition you deserve.



We are celebrating Hillstone's Home Learning Heroes. On our return to school a number of pupils from each year group will receive a prize and recognition on a special page on our website. There are two ways pupils can be guaranteed an award:

1. Comment/send in work **EVERY DAY** for the next eight days
(Wed 24th - Fri 5th)
2. Be recognised by the teachers as being on Virtual School every day (or almost) between Jan 11th and March 5th.



BE A HOME LEARNING HERO