



“Enriching generations to serve and flourish.”

## Ditton CE Junior Newsletter – 22<sup>nd</sup> January

We are constantly reviewing **home learning and in school lessons** week by week. I recognise how challenging this all is for you but I want to make a few tweaks now because when my team are responsible for the home learning, they are exhausting themselves. That’s impressive, but I need them to keep this up for as long as it takes, so I want to make it manageable! We are asking teachers and TAs to choose three blocks in the day when they **mark, comment and feedback on home learning** and suggesting they don’t respond in the evenings. Teachers usually plan in the evenings and we don’t want them to forget that due to constantly responding to hundreds of contacts. It is great that this is working well but they are perfectionists this bunch and I’m worried for them!! You will see a slight change in response times. **Do feedback if this causes any problems. Please sign up to Clasdojo if you haven’t already.**



Last week we talked about Jesus saying ‘**Have life and live it to the full**’ . That seems to sum up what families and schools are also meant to do for each child. So, here’s another bible verse suggesting one way of doing that:

**Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:11**

Not always the easiest thing to do!

Plus, we are beginning to trial doing an additional **zoom meeting**, by invitation later in the week, for home learner children that we see are having any difficulties. I think at least two year groups are doing this already but it will develop.

Lastly, by law, I must give teachers 10% of their contracted hours free for **Planning, Preparation and Assessment.**

In keeping with lots of schools we will now designate that as **Friday afternoons**, and ask our teams at home to avoid going online to comment or respond. Activities set will reflect this but it is also space for you to suggest fresh **activities at home**, have a screen free block, to do catch up work, enjoy exercise or let children use i-Player to catch up on the BBC programmes for lockdown.

### Message from the PTA –

Well done to all the Class hamper winners!

3KS - number 45 - Iona 3JC - number 18 - Charlie  
4KM - number 20 – Tommy 4SM - number 19 - Lawson  
5BH - number 45 - George D 5LN - number 65 - Paige  
6AB - number 2 - Leo 6MG - number 11 - Ben

Could parents of the winners get in contact with the PTA team via our Facebook page or email dittonjuniorspta@hotmail.co.uk to arrange collection or delivery of the hampers. Thank you again for supporting the PTA it is really appreciated by all.

Our Xmas Events have helped us raise some much needed funds - Name the Elf  
£58 Class Hampers - £146



You are sharing so many positive comments. We share these between ourselves on Class Dojo daily. Never doubt that your **positive feedback** is galvanising us as a team.

You are like an extra superpower for us in this battle.

Thankyou 😊

Richard Sutton-Smith