



Harwell Community Primary School

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Dear Parents,

As we enter the fourth week of the lockdown (doesn't time fly), I wanted to let you know of a few changes that we hope will make your busy lives, juggling work and remote learning, just that little bit easier.

First of all, thank you for the feedback. I am gladdened by the positive words about the efforts that all the staff are putting into the learning opportunities.

Furthermore, thank you for the constructive feedback on what would help you, moving forward. Sadly, we cannot do all of the things that you wanted. Some of them are simply logistically impossible given the resources that we have at our disposal; as I have mentioned before, we have typically 70+ children at school each day and the number of staff I need to deploy to support those children impacts on what we can do remotely.

However, there are some tweaks that I can make whilst still maintaining the quality of provision, that from your feedback, you have appreciated. One area is the number and timing of the Google Meets (**this will begin from Monday 1st February**).

As you will know, different ages have different needs:

Foundation will continue in the same manner as they are working now. It is working well and the feedback from Mrs Wells is really positive.

Key Stage one:

The morning meets will stay the same but the plenary sessions will be used more flexibly so that there is not always a need to check-in for the follow up (the class teacher will let you know in the Google Meet if your child needs to check-in).

The main change will be on Thursday and Friday; there will be no Google Meets in the afternoon. Work will be posted and will be centred more around wellbeing.

Key stage two:

The morning meets will stay the same pattern but again, the follow up plenary session will be used more flexibly.

The afternoon meets will be changing time; these will now be earlier in the afternoon. This change is to enable you to have more flexibility in the afternoon after the meet. I know, from the feedback, is something that will be welcome. However, not all Google Meets in the afternoon will be needed by all of KS2 - the teacher will let you know via Google Classroom. Again, as for Key stage one, Thursday and Friday afternoon Meets will be withdrawn with activities added onto the google classroom.

I hope these tweaks will help as you balance both your work, the children's learning and their wellbeing.

I understand that if you have siblings it is tricky to balance those. Now that we have loaned out devices to 15% of our school, I can begin to synchronise some of the Google Meets so that you are not having to jump from one to the next.

Finally, I need to give you advanced warning that on the **3rd February**, there **will not be any Google Meets on that day**. The remote learning on that day will be delivered through assignments, with instructions, and will be posted on the Classroom (or via Tapestry for FC).

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,
Mr Gibson