



Dear Parents and Carers.

I hope that this newsletter finds you and your families safe and well.

### Screen Time

We are all conscious of the fact that excessive screen time is not beneficial to either children or adults. With this in mind, each Wednesday we will be offering screen free activities. As a staff we feel that this is important and will support our pupils' well-being. We will ensure that these activities allow the children to be independently creative so as not to impact too much on you as parents and carers; as we know how supportive you have been with home schooling and are mindful of the fact that you have other important commitments during the school day.

As a school, we feel it particularly appropriate to begin this initiative next week as it is **Children's Mental Health Week (February 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>)**. The theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week is **Express Yourself**. Expressing yourself is about finding ways to share feelings, thoughts, or ideas, through creativity. This could be through art, music, writing and poetry, dance and drama, photography and film, and doing activities that make you feel good.

### Thank You

I would like to thank the parents and carers of all vulnerable and critical worker children who were due to be in school on Monday (25<sup>th</sup> January) for their understanding that we had to close on the day due to the adverse weather conditions brought on by the snow and overnight deep freeze.

I know that many parents and carers took the opportunity to enjoy the snow with their children while still finding the time to support the home learning provided.

I would also like to thank one of our parents publicly, Mrs. Mills, for contacting Ofsted to celebrate the Home Learning that school has put in place. Every single member of staff is aware of how fortunate we are to be serving our wonderful school community and to have such delightful and enthusiastic children and supportive parents. We are all extremely grateful for the positive comments and feedback from so many of you. I cannot express enough the effect your heartening and inspiring words have on staff.

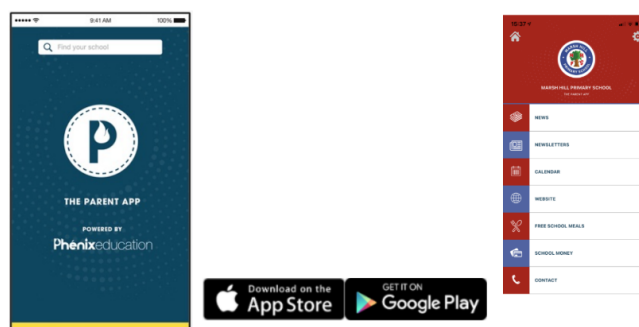
### Home Testing for School Staff

This week, school staff have, as part of a government initiative, been given the opportunity to take Coronavirus tests at home twice weekly. The reason for this programme is to identify staff who may be positive but are not showing symptoms. I would like to thank all staff who have agreed to take part in this optional testing with the intent that their actions will help to stop the spread of Coronavirus.

### The Parent App

I would like to remind all parents and carers about The Parent App. This is a fantastic app that gives you quick access to school newsletters, latest updates, and the school website.

You can download it from the app store on an iPhone or on google play on an android phone.



I wish you all a happy, peaceful and enjoyable weekend.

Yours sincerely,

*J. Cusack*

Mr. J Cusack  
Head Teacher