

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of our half term we can reflect on the past six weeks and all that has been achieved. This term has been different to what we all expected it would be and all staff at Havelock are extremely grateful for your support, encouragement and engagement.

In the past six weeks we have delivered learning in a completely new way and utilised technology available to us to ensure we have remained connected with the children and ensured that they have continued to learn. We recognise the hard work that you as parents have put in to help us achieve this and thank you for your support in embracing new ways of working.

We are all incredibly proud of the way your children have engaged with the remote learning set and completed tasks to a really high standard. Staff have really enjoyed marking work and sending feedback and the highlight of their days are the live learning sessions when they can see and interact with the children. To recognise the efforts of all our children we have sent home a remote learning hero certificate for them as shared in our assembly on Teams today.

It is now time for a rest from learning, to enjoy time away from the screens so we can all come back after the half term to continue with the remote learning. We still await further information about when schools are able to fully re-open for all pupils and will let you know as soon as the guidance is available.

We hope you all continue to remain safe and well and we look forward to the day when we can all come back together again.



Keep sharing your Havelock Hello hands!

### **Emergency reporting**

Please continue to report any confirmed positive cases using the emergency out of hours number for any children who have attended school this week. We will be performing track and trace through the holiday period so please let us know via text message on [07527324844](tel:07527324844) if your child tests positive during the half term.

### **Staffing changes**

Over the past couple of weeks there have been some staffing changes that we would like to make you aware of. We are grateful for all the hard work that these members of staff have given to Havelock and I am sure you will want to join us in wishing them well for their new adventures. We have said a sad farewell to Mrs Katie Trethewy who has worked at Havelock Infant School for the past 19 years. She will be very much missed by us all and we thank her for all she has done for the families of Desborough over the past 19 years. We have also said farewell to Miss Angie Huntley who has decided to embark on a new adventure and we wish her all the best for a happy future. Mrs Sam Foster has also made the sad decision to leave us as our family link worker and we wish her well for a happy future with her family. We are currently recruiting for these positions moving forward.

Our lunchtime supervisor team has also seen a few changes. We said goodbye to Miss Bolton in January who has decided to follow another career path and we welcome Miss Burgess and Mrs Steel to the team.



## Teams pages over the holiday

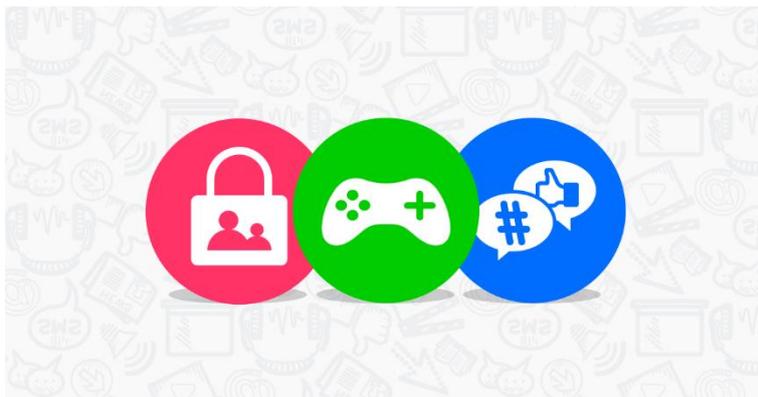


Staff and pupils are encouraged to have a digital break from MS Teams over the half term holiday. Staff will be available up to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 3.15pm and then again from 8.45am on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021.

We thank you for your support in reminding your children that this is a learning platform only and not social media and so should also be taking a break from Teams during the half term.

## Online Safety update

We always want to keep you updated on things to watch out for when keeping your children safe online. One app that has been brought to our attention recently is Omegle. This is an open social media site which allows users to chat to others without knowing who they are. The app has a suggested age of 13 but younger user can join with ease. As a school we would recommend that if your child is using this app you either consider different social media platforms, with stronger safety checks or you monitor your child's usage extremely closely so you know who they are communicating with.



Often children and teenagers don't have the emotional maturity to manage conversations online or distinguish between safe and unsafe people. It has been known that children have made arrangements to meet up with people without truly knowing who they are and without informing a known adult where they are going because they consider themselves to be 'friends' with the person they have been chatting with online. As always, we would strongly recommend you check your child's phone/devices regularly and talk to them about keeping safe online. We will continue to reinforce safer internet use through our online safety sessions and in school.

Safeguarding is  
Everyone's  
Responsibility

## Reporting Safeguarding Concerns

It is the responsibility of us all to protect our children from all forms of harm. If you are worried about the welfare or safety of a child then please make sure you have reported your concerns. If you feel the child is in immediate danger then please phone 999. For your other concerns about safety and welfare, please make a referral to MASH on 0300 126 1000. <https://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/SEND/local-offer/local-government-department/2459-multi-agency-safeguarding-hub-mash-and-child-protection-team> . In school we have trained DSLs who are responsible for reporting concerns when they arise in school who are continuing to report and monitor all concerns during this lockdown period too. By working together we can all safeguard our children.

## Pathfinder Newsletter

Our Academy Trust Pathfinder Schools have produced a newsletter attached detailing the remote learning that has been happening across our schools this half term. We encourage you to read this document to see how far we have come as a Trust in providing remote education.

## Half Term Activities Toolkit

We know that many of you might want some ideas to keep your children entertained during half term due to still being in Lockdown and so please find attached a leaflet with some ideas that you may want to try.

## New Term

Term starts again for all on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021. School remains only open for critical worker and vulnerable children who have had places confirmed. Remote learning will continue for all other pupils on this day.