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Principal: **Mrs Anne Davis**

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another unusual term I wanted to just update you on a few things related to your daughter/son returning to DSTC in due course.

Firstly - we do not know when this will be. We will find out at the same time as you in the press meeting on 22nd February 2021. It will take a day or so after the announcement for any rotas or arrangements to be put in place and at that point I will write to you again with details. In the meantime there are a few things your daughter/son needs to do (potentially with your help):

- Find their uniform, make sure it is clean and still fits, endeavour to replace any items no longer suitable.
- Keep up with the work set or catch up on any missed work from January. Please note there will be NO work set over the break to allow everyone to really relax and refresh as there is a long road ahead as we emerge from lockdown.
- Clean out their school bag, I am always amazed at the crumpled paper and sweet wrappers that get carried around in these!
- Read - a book, the newspaper, a magazine, a blog. All reading promotes improved vocabulary and the better the vocabulary the higher grades your child is likely to achieve. If they read something and meet a word they don't understand this is a great learning opportunity and they should look up its meaning.
- Stay healthy: stay active and go for walks. Try and get back into your routine, ensuring you wake up and go to bed at a reasonable time.
- Consider doing puzzles to keep the brain active - sudoku, word searches, crosswords, jigsaw puzzles, brain teasers. These are good for adults as well. There are more ideas for what to do in the poster attached.

We will be issuing individual reports on engagement during remote learning for this term, this will be sent out before the end of March 2021. Due to the COVID restrictions we will not be publishing any grades or attainment data, we will review this when we have further information about the full reopening of schools from the Government.

We have set up our DSTC COVID testing site and have so far conducted 133 Lateral Flow tests on staff and students. We are confident in the procedures and the team we have in place and are ready to extend this as more students and staff are back on site.

Please remember our textiles bank at school - if you are clearing out clothes/bedding this is an ideal place to deposit these once we are free from lockdown.

Please do enjoy a more restful week if you are able during half term. I am very much looking forward to all the students returning to school when it is safe to do so.

Kind regards

Anne Davis

Mrs A Davis
Principal

