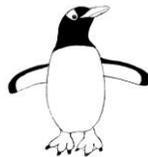
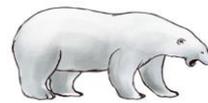


Homework –

Friday 13th November 2020



Mrs Smith



Mrs Pendlebury



Dear Parent/Carer

I have the granddad picture in the box at the top of this homework, not because I am a granddad but because I am certainly old enough to be one!

There are all sorts of things that you don't anticipate about getting older – things like, your knees lose their springiness, wrinkles start crawling all over your face, staying up late is a pain and not an adventure and so on...

It's not all bad though – one of the great things about being older is that (despite having to wear glasses to see things more clearly) you begin to see things – especially the 'bigger picture' – more clearly ☺.

I'm leading up to saying what **I can see clearly** about how this school and this community is coping during this strange and crazy year. For schools to be successful, you have to combine fantastic staff with a fantastic school community and whether or not you have these things becomes clear in times of adversity. Like the whole of the population, staff were frightened by Coronavirus but came into work; even giving up holidays to do their bit. Our school community made us feel very special by being **completely, completely** supportive. Similarly, when we have juggled school opening and closing times around, parents have trusted that we are doing it for a good reason and have supported us. And this week, as we have responded to parental concerns about mask wearing and have made it compulsory for parents coming onto site (unless they have an exemption) we have been supported (almost) 100% because parents are overwhelmingly responsible and sensible.

I'm not sure that everyone understands **exactly** how all this works – but at this school, staff work for the community and the community supports staff. Parents know that we are completely open in our thoughts and that we are available for discussion about what we do. We are always confident that parents will support us – even when they disagree with us... and we are all confident that we can work around problems. We also have many, many lines of communication that are open to parents: I particularly love Class Dojo for that and parents use it all the time to ask me things.

What I do know, because of my great age and because I have been in quite a few schools, is that this symbiotic relationship is pretty rare, pretty unusual and something that we must all feel proud of and value for the sake of the children who are educated at the school. In a week where there have been shootings on the streets of Conisbrough, we need to focus on helping our young people to be responsible citizens so that they do not become fodder for the gangs that think they run the town.

I may be old and creaky, but I know a good thing when I see it and I hope that we will all continue to support each other to make this school and this community go on to even better things in the future – once this crazy year is behind us.

Please use the comment box below to write anything you have to say about the homework or about any other school issues...

Signed:

Please make sure that your child's medical details and emergency contact numbers are with the office and up-to-date.