



Archway

2 February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Online Learning

The School passed a milestone this week; we gave out our 100th laptop! Thank you to those kind members of the community who have been donating laptops, old and new, to our IT team. Yesterday we received 3 more and these will quickly be put to good use.

Thank you to the pastoral team who have been making phone calls to families to check when students have not been engaging. Often technical difficulties have been cited as a reason for non-engagement. If there are technical issues, please do get in touch with the school; we are here to help.

Children's Mental Health Week 2021

This week is Children's Mental Health Week. There are many challenges facing students who are working in isolation at home without the ongoing face-to-face support of teachers and their friends. We would like to encourage students to get involved in something 'whole school' starting with 'Drop Everything and Do Something You Enjoy' this Thursday period 5. It is a time to switch off the laptop and do something else, be it some cooking, a leisure activity, reading, something creative or a physical activity. We would really like to see what the children are up to. Please send photos to competition@archwayschool.net

As an ongoing challenge, we are inviting parents, staff and students to take part in a virtual race to Nepal. Many of you will know that Archway School had strong ties to Shree Chandee Adarsha School in Nepal for many years and we thought it would be a good destination to race to. If you run, walk or cycle any distance (you could use the Strava app or similar to record your journey) then please visit our website to tell us how far you have travelled using a simple online form. Remember to keep to the social distancing rules if you are out doing exercise. Over the coming week, we shall be displaying which group has travelled the furthest on our website. For more information visit <https://www.archwayschool.net/page/?title=Wellbeing+Activities&pid=98>

The library has also organised a reading challenge to find out which tutor group are the top readers. Reading is an excellent way to unwind, take your mind to a different place and improve your literacy. Please visit the same page on our website to find out more and to record your reading. Remember you can also order a book for collection at the school reception.

The government has produced some helpful mental health resources and contacts for those who need help and advice. Please visit <https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/01/mental-health-resources-for-children-parents-carers-and-school-staff/>

Yours faithfully

Kieron Smith
Headteacher