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Headteacher Fav Beach

22nd January 2021

Dear families,

I am writing to you at the end of a very busy week for everyone involved in remote education. We recognised the current situation of remote education is as much of a job for our families as it is for the Rayner Stephens staff and would like to thank you for your hard work and dedication in supporting your children's education at this time.

Thank you for all the parents that have completed the parent survey. The senior team will be looking at them in detail on Monday and we will write to you again next week with an overview of the feedback, hopefully answer any questions or requests for support that families have asked for and update you if following the survey we have adapted the remote learning offer in school. Learners and staff have also completed a survey this week and we will use all three to review our current remote learning offer. Many thanks to the families that took the time to write positive comments. I will be forwarding these messages to my colleagues, we really appreciate your support.

There are a few other updates to share this week. Firstly the department of education has halted serial testing for staff and learners who have been close contacts. The policy has now reverted to these individuals completing 10 days isolation rather than having daily testing. However lateral flow testing for staff is now being increased to twice a week and this will start from Monday.

The consultation for GCSE/BTECs has begun, a link was sent to Year 11 parents on Monday and all senior leaders and curriculum leaders are taking part to share their views on the proposed changes. The consultation is open until next Thursday once the DfE and Ofqual share their finding from the consultation we will write to you again to share the findings and next steps.

The school has now been able to complete the order for 139 further laptops form the department of education and we are currently waiting on the delivery. We have also been able to bid for further devices through private enterprise. We will do our best to ensure that as many learners as possible have access to their own laptop to support remote learning.

All free school meal vouchers have been issued. If you have not received your please contact Dr Potter m.potter@rshs.aspireplus.org.uk.

In the interviews with the Prime Minister and Secretary of Education that have taken place this week there has not been a definitive answer to when schools will reopen however, they have said that schools will get a fortnights notice to prepare. We are all hoping that we are able to safely welcome all of our learners back as soon as possible.

Thank you again for all your support.

Fay Beach

Headteacher

