Good Afternoon Everyone,

Well, we have made it through a very long and complicated week. Thank you to everyone who has played their part and helped us to ensure we are able to support those frontline workers who desperately need us through our emergency childcare. We have a clear idea of who needs us now and who might need us moving forward. Please continue to contact school if you have any queries on 0113 8879023 or office@eastardsley.org.uk.

We have a very limited staff in school to ensure we are able to keep our emergency childcare open long-term and to manage our communications with everyone effectively. The office is still open and we are helping as many people as we can remotely so please do get in touch if you need us.

Thank you to everyone who has engaged so amazingly with Tapestry this week. There have been a few teething problems and we are aware that whilst fantastic, it is not perfect. We have loved seeing all your work and the activities you have been doing. Please do not panic if you are not getting through all the work on the right day or in the right order. You will have time to catch up on anything you’ve missed over the Easter break when there will be no work uploaded for two weeks.

Teachers are spending time every day monitoring and responding to the work the children have been doing. They have also been monitoring if the children have been accessing Lexia, Accerlated Reader and Times Tables Rock Stars so that we can gauge if your child is doing what they need to at this difficult time. If we notice that you are not logging onto Tapestry or the other support materials we provide we will be making contact to offer further support and guidance.

We recognise that for a lot of families it will be a particularly difficult time financially and we are working to ensure that the families who are entitled to the free school meals grant are given the financial support they need. Our thanks to the kitchen team who have kept things going this week. We will be replacing this support with food vouchers as soon as the system is up and running.

If you become entitled to the free school meals grant whilst we are closed please contact school so that we can add you to our list and ensure you get the support you need. Our pastoral team will still be keeping in touch and following up with all the families we know may need our help, but we are here and able to access services and give advice to all our parents so please get in touch if you need us for anything.

Finally can I ask that you discuss the introduction of social distancing and the requirement to stay at home and avoid unnecessary journeys or social contact with your children, so that they fully understand the importance of doing what is right for the benefit of us all. It is well explained in the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults>