



Evergreen Primary School

Improving Life Chances Creating Opportunities Serving Humanity

23rd March 2020

Asalamualaikum warahmatulahi, wabarakatuhu,

Dear parents & carers,

I pray that you are well and in good health.

By now all of you have already received a call from either Ms Sara or brother Feroz regarding the call that you will receive from your child's class teacher who will insha'Allah introduce you to the new routine for your child's learning on Monday. I am grateful for the appreciation you have all shown and thank you enormously for your belief and support in our school. However I am not writing to you today regarding school work or their education.

We all understand that you have high hopes for of hours of exciting learning, and a scheduled timetable that will include challenging work, including memorising Quran, online learning, reading sessions great maths.

We already know that you are all onboard and are ready for next Tuesdays first home learning day and know that you will limit technology until everything is done, we thank you for this, but here's the thing...

Our kids are just as scared as we are right now. Our kids not only can hear everything that is going on around them, but they feel our constant tension and anxiety. They have never experienced anything like this before. Although the idea of being off of school for some weeks sounds amazing they are probably picturing a fun time like summer break, not the reality of being trapped at home and not seeing their friends.

Over the coming weeks, you will see an increase in behavior issues with your kids. Whether it's anxiety, or anger, or protest that they can't do things normally - it will happen. You'll see more meltdowns, tantrums, and oppositional behavior in the coming weeks. This is normal and expected under these circumstances.

Ustadh Feroz who has lead pastoral care will be on hand and will be able to offer support and care and if needed, if you permit, we will speak to your child insha'Allah. But most of all what kids need right now is to feel comforted and loved. To feel like it's all going to be ok. This might mean that you give up your perfect schedule that the school has given for a while and love your kids a bit more. Play outside and go on walks. Bake cookies and paint pictures. Play board games and watch movies. Do a science experiment together or start a book and read together as a family. Snuggle under warm blankets and do nothing.

Please don't worry about them regressing in school. Every single kid is in this boat and they all will be ok. When we are back in the classroom in school at Evergreen we will insha'Allah get back to working even harder to correct and meet them where they should be. Teachers are experts at this trust me!

Don't pick fights with your kids because they don't want to do math. Don't scream at your kids for not following the timetable, Don't mandate hours of learning time if they are resisting it, insha'Allah they will be fine and soon will resume back to their schedule that we have given.

If I can leave you with one thing, it's this: at the end of all of this, your kids' mental health will be more important than their academic skills. How they felt during this time will stay with them long after the memory of what they did during those long weeks is long gone. So keep that in mind, every single day.

We will do our part to assist you in this difficult time.

May Allah keep grant us strength and protect our loved ones

Ms Zara
Proprietor
Evergreen Primary School