



Milton Primary School
Hendre Farm Drive
Newport
NP19 9HB

Monday 18th January 2021

IMPORTANT: LAPTOP LOAN

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing with regards to the laptop that your family was loaned so that your child/ren could access remote learning.

Unfortunately, when staff have monitored usage we can see that **the laptop we have loaned you has not been used at all.**

This is really disappointing as, when we loaned out all of our available laptops last year, we prioritised our older pupils so that they have full access to learning during what are such important years of schooling. We still currently have many families who do not have access to a device and who we are unable to support so I hope you can understand our frustrations that these devices are not being used when there are many other families who would really benefit from the opportunity that your family has been given. There have also been requests for paper learning packs from families who have been loaned a laptop. As you can appreciate, this is adding significant pressure to staff in school as they are having to balance providing remote learning with creating paper packs.

Furthermore, the Education Welfare Service is monitoring pupil engagement in remote learning while schools are closed. The view of the Education Welfare Service may be that **parents are neglecting their child's right to an education if they have been provided with a device but have not engaged in remote learning.**

As noted in the loan agreement which you signed upon receipt of the device, the school reserves the right to collect laptops back in. This is not our desired course of action as we would much prefer to see our children engaging in their learning.

Can we therefore politely request that parents and carers ensure their children engage with remote learning this week by using their laptop. All children have been provided with their log in details for Hwb, Seesaw and Google Classroom but if you need support then please contact your child's teacher and they will do their best to help.

As noted in my most recent newsletter, **the most effective way to access learning and support is through Seesaw and Google Classroom. As well as being able to see the work that the children are producing, we are able to answer questions, differentiate tasks and provide feedback to your children.**

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We will be continuing to monitor laptop usage this week and if it remains the case that your device is still not being **used by Friday 22nd January**, then regrettably we will have to collect the laptop back in so that it can be re-distributed to another family.

Many thanks for your understanding with this matter.

Mrs Burke