



To every child at Markeaton,

You might be wondering why I have put a picture of an elephant stuck in some mud at the top of this letter!!?

Well, have you ever walked through a field after it's been raining loads and felt like every footstep in the mud is really hard, and sometimes your foot gets stuck? Sometimes your welly comes off and it's a real challenge to get moving again. Try to imagine that feeling right now, you want to move forward but you can't and you feel like you want to stop. Feels a bit like remote learning at the moment doesn't it. You want to get going but every now and again, the longer it goes on, the harder it gets.

Just so you know, we are all incredibly proud of you and this feeling of being stuck with your work is totally normal. Being at home at the moment and having to do all your learning is a real challenge. It's hard for you, it's hard for your mums and dads and it's hard for school (because we would much rather you were here in school!). So try not to worry. We also know that every now and again you might feel frustrated. This is normal too and is nobody's fault. It is just one of the many ways our emotions come out during a time when things are hard.

Having said that, you should know that the teachers and I have been super impressed with the work you have sent in on Microsoft Teams or Tapestry. You have shown how well you can work on your own, you have shown resilience (about trying hard when things are tough) and you have shown how creative you are! Well done ☺



And let's not forget, there is hope. There is light at the end of the tunnel. The elephant's feet will become free again! School will not be closed forever and we will be open again fairly soon. And when we are, you are going to have an amazing time. The sun will be out and all your friends and teachers will be waiting for you.

So keep trying your best, listen to your mums and dads and let's give it one last big effort over the next couple of weeks ☺

From your incredibly proud Headteacher, Mr Johnson

**PS If you want your mum or dad to email me some of your work then I will have a look and get back to you!**