

21/1/21

# IVYDALE NEWS

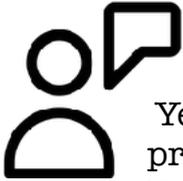
Keep Calm!



Keep Clean!



Be Kind!



Dear Ivydale families,

Yesterday I watched the US presidential inauguration - the traditions, the music, the sense of history, the dignity, the powerful words of unity and of course the first female and first black and South Asian vice-president taking office. I was particularly struck by the words of the young poet, Amanda Gorman and if you haven't had a chance to hear or read her poem "The hill we climb" from the ceremony then I would urge you to do so,

"When day comes, we ask ourselves, where can we find light in this never-ending shade? ... There is always light. Only if we are brave enough to see it. There is always light. Only if we are brave enough to be it."

The world is certainly feeling a little brighter.

With many thanks for your continued support,

**Helen Ingham, Headteacher**

## FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS

Families in receipt of benefits related free school meals will receive their first eCode to access supermarket vouchers this week. If you think you are eligible for benefits related free school meals then please contact the school office. In addition, if you need support with providing food for your children while they are not in school but are not eligible for benefits related free school meals, then please contact us as well.



## STAFF TESTING

Did you know that one in three people with coronavirus doesn't show any symptoms and are contributing to the spread of the virus? Southwark have recently opened a test centre for rapid testing for critical workers and in the next week or so, twice weekly voluntary testing of all school staff will begin. While the testing itself will happen at home, the responsibility of organising and overseeing the programme is yet another additional responsibility that has fallen to schools. However, it is a positive step in reducing the spread of the virus and the risk to people's health and ultimately a step to us getting back to normal.

