



Friday 24th April 2020

Dear Parents

I hope this finds you well and that you have had chance to enjoy the sunshine this week. We have certainly had a good stretch of weather through these strange times. It has given me a chance to get out the power hose; few things in life are as satisfying as a good pressure wash. Might be just me. 😊

The majority of children are engaging very well with the online learning. It great to see that commitment to learning, thank you for your support with this. I know from trying to teach the twins at home that some days are easier than others, especially when I am trying to get work done too. I read today that it takes a village to raise a child and a vineyard to home school a child. That could be right! We do understand that this is not easy so please don't worry about putting the TV on and putting them in front of a good learning programme. (a great list was sent at the beginning that Mrs Woosey put together.) This week BBC Bitesize have started to do lessons and we have done a few of them; they really are great and the children learn loads. Mrs Day has done a few with her children and recommends them too. There are lessons daily for every year group.

Mrs Galea, our guitar teacher, has now got a Youtube channel with guitar lessons on. So for those pupils who she teaches please tune in and do some practising. She is going to add a ukulele lesson soon too. You will find them at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmX3M60V8aRlt5UFPVE01zQ/videos>

I hope you have had time to look at Facebook and see one of our lovely governors, Mr Hogarth, reading his favourite story. I am going to post another on Sunday which will be a little reflection too. I have been spurred on by all of your lovely comments on the last one. It would lovely to read in the comments thoughts that the children have.

Each week I will give a little flavour of what the children have been doing in school to give you a few ideas of what you may wish to do. So this week they have played on scooters, designed football strips, made little greenhouses and planted pea seeds and aloe vera shoots, deadheaded the daffodils, learned the national anthem for the Queen's birthday, made crispy cakes, learned about St George and the Dragon, played the floor is lava, designed and play with an obstacle course, did an outdoor trail in the new wild area on the field, played tennis and painted pebbles with acrylic paints.

I know that a number of you are still waiting for free school meal vouchers to hit your email boxes but I promise that I have done everything I should have done and when I log on I can see that they are fulfilled but are just waiting on someone emailing them out to you. It really has been a big fiasco and such a stressful process. I will still keep getting food bags for you for as long as I can. Can I ask that if you get a text message saying that there is one at school ready for collection that you let us know if you can't collect it or if you don't want it as there are plenty of people who would appreciate more. You do not have to be on free school meals to request food bags, if you are struggling please reach out and I will do all I can to help. If you leave a message on the answerphone I will get the message as it is listened to daily by a school senior leader. Noone will know but the senior leadership team.

Have a great week and take care of each other.

Mrs Gallagher

