

WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Westbury-on-Severn
CE Primary School

Monday 20th April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you all well and safe. My thoughts and prayers continue to be for us all.

It is certainly uncharted water we are sailing in at the moment and I would like to thank each of you for all you are doing to support the children with learning at home. However, I want to reassure you that in whatever way you are supporting your children at home, it is fine. We want everyone to be safe first and foremost.

That said, we still have a responsibility as a school to support some form of education, and we wouldn't be teachers if we didn't want this to be the case! So, with that in mind, your child's teachers and teaching partners have been working very hard to organise a programme of study that will give you something to work on over the coming weeks. We obviously don't know how long it will be before schools reopen. If you follow the daily Downing Street briefings on BBC1, you will have heard the Secretary of State for Education saying yesterday that he cannot give a timescale on schools reopening.

Attached to this letter, is the parent theme-sheet that you would usually receive at the start of each term. This sheet gives you a steer as to the learning that would be taking place in class across all areas of learning, over the term. This term however, the theme sheet has been written in lots more detail, with various web-links. The subject boxes contain key questions that can be explored at home through independent or family research projects. The idea is that each week, you will be told by the class teacher, which key questions you would be focusing on at home. You will then have the whole week to research and work on those questions. We would encourage your child to present their learning however they wish, and then to send the evidence of their finished learning to their class teacher in your usual way. If the home-learning is construction-based, for example building an Egyptian Pyramid, then obviously just photograph the finished piece and send that in.

I would strongly suggest that you stick to exploring only those questions that have been set, so that there is a consistency of learning taking place between your child and the others in their class. If we are able to get back to school before the end of the summer, it will mean that most children will have had experience of exploring and learning the same things rather than everyone doing their own thing! I hope that makes sense!

I want to thank you for the way you have engaged with the INSTAGRAM sharing of your child's home-learning. I am able to see all of the posts and it has been marvellous to see how the children are working so hard to meet their learning objectives set each day by the teachers.

In addition, your child's teacher will also give you details about ongoing maths and literacy learning. Please continue to ensure that your child reads daily and often to you or another adult in your household.

I am also attaching this term's 'Values for Life' theme sheet. If we were still in school, we would be exploring the value of 'Friendship' this term during our times of collective worship and in class. I think this



value is especially important at this time, as we remember the importance of friends. There are some ideas and activities on the sheet that you might like to do at home. Again, I encourage you to share what you have done with each other using the class Instagram page and class email address.

There is so much I would like to share with you, to support you at home, but there is a real danger of overloading you, so I will stop! I will be in touch later this week with any updates. But in the meantime I just want to finish by saying a huge THANK YOU and WELL DONE to you parents and carers, for the way you have worked and supported your children. Within a space of minutes, our whole way of life changed dramatically as a nation, with instruction to stay at home. Schools and businesses closed almost overnight and this has had a dramatic effect on us all. However, you have all risen to the challenges and been amazing at supporting us and the children. I love you all.

Please be assured that we are still here for you if you need us. Give us a call or email and we will do whatever we can to support you at home. I will continue to make my phone calls to you at home and check in with the children.

Please continue to look after yourselves and stay safe.

With my warmest wishes,



David Crunkhurn
Headteacher
Westbury-on-Severn CE Primary School