



OAKFIELD ACADEMY

BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE

Friday 27th March 2020

Dear Parents,

Thank you for all of your support and for the lovely emails we have received. The pupils we have had in school this week have been fantastic and we appreciate all you are doing as key workers. We understand that many of you are working from home and taking care of your children at the same time and we understand what a challenge this is. We have received lots of messages asking how much work pupils are expected to complete at home and we would like to make that clear and give some further guidance on resources.

The Government have asked us to stay at home and they have suspended the National Curriculum for the time being and cancelled all exams. It is therefore reasonable for parents to decide how much work their child can complete and in what way your family will approach this. **Please be aware that, for the majority of subjects there are NO NEW TOPICS being covered.** All the learning tasks and challenges we will provide will be to review, revise and embed what has already been learned. This could be skill wise or using their already existing core knowledge. Some families have created timetables to follow each day and others are taking a flexible approach. This is up to you; help keep their minds active and their learning live. As a school, we will aim to provide activities for pupils to complete at home as independently as possible as we recognise that you may need to work and look after other children too. As we have previously mentioned, we think this is a brilliant opportunity to do some of those activities we don't always have time for but are really valuable such as family board games; discussions around new articles from Newsround, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>, painting or drawing; viewing and discussing films, cooking together ...even housework can all benefit pupils. Please don't worry about doing lots of written tasks, prioritise and encourage reading and researching; discussion about what they have been doing is a great way for your child to self-assess what they have learnt and understood.

If you would like to follow a routine of daily lessons, there is further guidance for Maths and English on the [Little Lesson section of our website](#). We have tried to use activities that don't involve printing anything as we recognise this is not always possible. For each year group, we are then updating the 'little lessons' page of our website with ideas for every subject. A suggestion could be: to complete a physical activity at 9am, then focus on Maths and English for the next few hours of the day, followed by a mixture of activities from our Art, Humanities and DT pages for example. You could rotate these different subjects each day. One thing we are confident in; children crave and enjoy structure to their day!! Build these learning opportunities around a wide range of diverse activities too. Pupils could record their experiences in a book or keep sheets of paper in a folder and we would love to see examples of things they have done.

We have started a weekly newsletter to aid communication. This will be full of photographs of what the pupils at school have been doing and those sent in from home. It will feature new ideas of live streams such as Joe Wicks 9am PE sessions and new websites or activities. Our school email address is read daily so if you have any questions or would like to send in photographs please forward them to oakfieldacademy@educ.somerset.gov.uk. Unfortunately, we are unable to print resources out for people to collect from school as the Government have clearly stated that you should only leave the house for one of the 4 key reasons. If you don't have access to something you need, send us an email and we might be able to upload it to our little lessons page.

It is important that we all look after ourselves right now. Every Mind Matters has released expert advice and top tips on how to look after your mental wellbeing during this time. It also gives guidance if you are feeling worried or anxious about the outbreak. Please visit: <http://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/>. We will also be updating the PSHE section of our little lessons with ideas for pupils.

Thank you once again for all of your support during this difficult time and take care.

Mr David McGrath
Deputy Head

Mrs Emma Thomas
Deputy Head

Mrs Cat Cross
Assistant Head



Oakfield Academy
Information Page

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