



# Orton Church of England Primary School

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## Keep on Keeping On

I really hope this newsletter finds you all well. We are all finding life very challenging at the moment. Juggling the demands of working, family life, our worries, remote learning and whatever other balls you are trying to keep in the air really is not easy but all anyone can do is their best. There is no right answer and countless different approaches. It is very easy to feel we are not doing enough especially when we listen to how other people seem to be coping and seem to have everything in order. Everyone has their own challenges, try not to compare yourself to others.

## Just Do Your Best

I want to reassure you that you are doing really well. You have already managed 4 weeks since the beginning of term which is a achievement worth celebrating. We are really impressed with the remote learning that your children are doing and the wonderful job you are doing of supporting them. We really know it's not easy.

You will no doubt have heard this weeks news that schools will not begin returning until at least 8th March. Whilst for many of you it probably wasn't a completely unexpected announcement, it has probably been received by families with a mixture of feelings and emotions.

I have very mixed feelings about this. Actually hearing the announcement started my tears rolling yet again for our children and school. I absolutely know that we need our children back in school but if this extension to the lockdown keeps more people safe and reduces the number of people affected by family deaths then we must go through this incredibly difficult time together. There is hope and light at the end of the tunnel with the vaccination program being rolled out as quick as possible and school staff have started carrying out regular lateral flow testing.

Take a few moments to put aside the stresses of your day, week or month. Think about the little positives and celebrate how far you have come and all that you have achieved. Also take some time to make sure you look after yourselves and make the most of the lovely area we are even more lucky to live in right now.

There are better things to come we all just have to look after each other and keep on keeping on.

You can do this but if you need ANY help do not be afraid to ask for it at the earliest opportunity.

Take care and get in touch if you need anything.

Mrs P X

## Family Learning Free Support

Family Learning service has moved online to help support parents and carers during COVID 19. You can check out the new offer of QUICK-SKILL courses to help you through lock-downs, self-isolating, home-learning, homework and catching up here –

[Family Learning Flyer.pdf](https://adultlearning.cumbria.gov.uk/subjects/family.asp)

<https://adultlearning.cumbria.gov.uk/subjects/family.asp>

## SPIRAL Support

Spiral are currently offering one to one support to young people aged 8-25 years.

They are currently are providing emotional support to do with anxiety, low mood or anger increases due to the pandemic. You can find more information in the attached flyer. Please reach out to them if your child might benefit.



## Fairtrade Fortnight

Fair trade fortnight begins immediately after half term. As part of our remote learning we will be including some activities and learning linked to Fairtrade. If you are able to, when you are out shopping look out for products with the Fair Trade logo or have a look in your cupboards to see what you might have bearing the logo. Well known Fairtrade products are bananas, Kitkats and Dairy Milk chocolate! Please help raise awareness by bringing these to your children's attention.

On Friday 26th February we will be welcoming Claire Arnott from Fairtrade to a whole school assembly via Zoom to talk to us all about Fairtrade. Please pop the date in your diary—the zoom link will be sent out nearer the time.

## Whole School Worship—Mon & Wed

We have two whole school worships a week for all children to join if they can. These are a fabulous way to keep in touch with the rest of the school so please get your children to join in. We love seeing everyone together. They are via zoom at the following times;

Monday 1.15pm—Open The Book

Wednesday 9.15am—Visitor Led Worship

The links have been shared with parents on an email on 15th January. The links are also shared with the children in their Teams.

We also regularly share videos we are sent from Ruth and Kristy. These are shared with the children on their Teams but you can also find most of them on the school website.

<https://www.ortoncofeprimary.co.uk/church-corner/>

## Keeping in Touch

We have a Keeping in Touch page on our website. We love to see what you've all been up to as well as remote learning. Please send us photos you are happy to share of you having fun to [MrsG@orton.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:MrsG@orton.cumbria.sch.uk) and we'll pop them on the website.

Have a look here at what everyone's been up to <https://www.ortoncofeprimary.co.uk/team-orton-keeping-in-touchlockdown-3/>

# Diary Dates



All diary dates are subject to change.

9.2.21	Safer Internet Day
12.2.21	Break Up
22.2.21	New Half term starts
22.2.21—5.3.21	Fair Trade Fortnight
26.2.21	Fairtrade Assembly—Speaker Claire Arnott
4.3.21	World Book Day—dress up at home!
11.3.21	Life Education—TBC
1.4.21	End of Spring Term
19.4.21	Start of Summer Term
28.5.21	Break Up
7.6.21	New half term starts
11.6.21	Wheelchair Basketball
23.6.21—25.6.21	Class 3 Residential, Langdale—Provisional
28.6.21—2.7.21	Class 4 Residential, Isle of Man—Provisional
16.7.21	End of Summer Term