

Thursday 7th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

This letter marks the end of yet another week; thank you and well done! Across the school we continue to see a weekly rise in the number of children and families engaging in Seesaw and taking part in the now weekly Zoom meetings offered by our teachers. We know that for many of you this is no mean feat, so please accept our sincere gratitude for all you are doing to make this happen.

Thank you to all the families who have already completed the pupil voice questionnaires. Gaining a clear understanding of the opinions of our pupils is always something we strive for at Rackham, and during these school closures it is even more vital that they have an opportunity to let their voices be heard. If you haven't yet had a chance, the questionnaires won't close until the end of the week and we value each and every contribution. The KS2 questionnaire can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2XVZMTH>. The KS1 is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2XMD57L>.

You have been emailed home learning planning a day earlier than usual because of the national Bank Holiday on Friday. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the teachers for working longer hours this week in order to ensure that planning was ready before the extended weekend whilst ensuring they maintained a high level of interaction on Seesaw with their pupils. A VE Day information page has also been emailed for families who choose to spend a little time with their children explaining the significance of the event. Had we been in school, we would have marked the occasion with age appropriate lessons and would have been available to support the children by answering the questions that might have arisen. However, during this time we felt that it was important to maintain consistency of topic learning as we were unable to do the subject enough justice using online learning, given that many children are finding the current circumstances difficult to cope with. However, we still intend to mark the occasion through a number of optional activities and videos released should you choose to use them. All necessary information is on the poster below. We would like to invite you all to join the now famous Rackham weekly singalong at 3pm, this week a day early (Thursday 7th May). Miss Crawley has chosen the very apt, "We'll Meet Again" and the link has been shared on Seesaw, Twitter and Facebook. I feel that at this time, it will be a very poignant reminder of the sacrifices of the many during WW2 and the enormous number of acts of heroism which are being mirrored in today's pandemic.

I wish you all the very best for a sunny and commemorative Bank Holiday and thank you once again for the incredible support we continue to see right across the school community.

Mrs Ward
Curriculum, Teaching and Learning Lead

