Dear Parents,

I hope you are all well and keeping safe. If you have fallen ill and or are looking after an unwell family member we hope you or they make a speedy recovery.

Can I firstly thank you all for following the government guidelines and keeping your children at home and working through social distancing during this critical phase. This week we have had a few children and staff in school. Their families are critical workers, many working for the NHS. We all are so very grateful for the work you all do.

THANK YOU NHS

The children have, like many of you I think, enjoyed baking, keeping fit with Joe Wicks' daily workout, getting busy on purple mash and doing lots of art work. The weather has been great so we have been on a bug hunt, listened to the birds and played a game of rounders. They miss you as I am sure you miss them. We hope to be back together soon.

Yesterday the children were outside and decorated one of the trees with chalk. They have named it The positivity tree. We are all staying positive and remember that people are working very hard to stop the virus. I have heard many of the children have made rainbows in support of the NHS and placed them in their windows. I am sure all the NHS staff near you are very happy to see this.

Purple Mash had a surge of children accessing their site this week. Thank you for your patience with logging on and uploading work. Purple Mash are aware of the issues and are working through the problems.

We are adding to our website each time we are directed to another free resource available for children to access at home. Please keep an eye on the website for any updates.

We are all aware that many children may struggle to complete school work, please note there is no pressure to complete all the work that has been given. We want families to not feel pressured or worried that their children might not be doing enough. There is so much you could do that does not involve a computer or the internet.

Here are ten to get you started:

- 1. Can you tie your shoelaces yet? If you can, are you able to teach someone else?
- 2. Maybe learn how to plait your hair or plait someone in your family?

3. From recycled card and old material, make some puppets to perform a puppet show or retell your favourite story.

- 4. Make a pretend car from recycled boxes.
- 5. Make a map of your house and hide some treasure (like pennies and but pretend they are gold) write clues for someone to find them.

6. Learn a new word you haven't used before. Try to use it in a sentence ten times throughout the day. (The word could be English or Spanish.)

- 7. Learn to read and write all the days of the week and months of the year.
- 8. Learn to write your home address.
- 9. Learn to write you full name; first, middle and surname.
- 10. Plant some seeds, ready for summer. Watch them grow.

If any families are struggling to find resources such as paper, pens or paints, please lets us know so we can arrange for you to come and pick some up.

Our final task for the children is one of the following three options:

A. Write a letter to your neighbours. Introduce yourself and say Hi.

B. Write a letter to children that are in school at the moment because their families have to go to work. If you are taking a daily walk, you can walk past the school and deliver it to the office. Try to include a picture and something new you have learnt or enjoyed doing. The children will open it and they will write back to you too.

C. Keep a diary, write down what the weather has been like today. What activities you have been up to. How you have been feeling. Draw a picture.

Finally, please do let us know if you need anything at all. We are here to support one another. If you can not get through on the phone please email. Admin@rusheygreen.lewisham.sch.uk. This email address is monitored daily.

Have a good weekend all.

Mrs Lisa Williams Headteacher