

WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL

One of the Seaton Valley Federation of Schools

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> Executive Headteacher: John Barnes Head of School: Jonathan Souter

3 April 2020

Dear Parent or Carer

It will not have escaped your attention that had everything gone as planned, today would be a teacher training day and your child(ren) would be starting their Easter holidays. Of course, we know now that this will not be a normal holiday, with most people confined indoors. Of course, we understand why this has to happen and we all hope it will have the desired effect for our own communities and the Country as a whole in the long term.

Over the past two weeks we have been asking children to engage with a daily mix of English and Maths, some physical exercise and other activities from the wider curriculum. Some of this work will have been sourced from our website, some will have been found elsewhere by parents and some of it will have been accessed through our Google Classrooms. The Google Classroom has been quite a new thing for everyone at Whytrig, including staff, so thank you to those who have given it a go and please accept our apologies when things have not gone to plan, as this has been a learning curve for everyone here. However, we do see it as an excellent resource and it is our intention to direct learning more in this way after the Easter holidays. None of us know how long this situation will last. So, if your child is not signed up yet, now is a good time to try it and practise ready for the summer term!

However, it is now the holiday period, so teachers will not be setting work for home learning as they have been doing. This time is a good time for our children to relax and do the things they enjoy doing, whilst still remembering to follow social distancing/ stay indoors guidelines! Our school will of course remain open for key worker families and vulnerable children but on a reduced skeleton staff. The normal home learning arrangements will start again on Monday 20th April.

We would like to wish you all a very Happy Easter, but more importantly at this time, to stay healthy and safe and look after each other!

Yours sincerely

Mr Souter

