



Shadwell Primary School
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www.shadwell.leeds.sch.uk

3rd April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well and I hope you have had a successful week in all you have attempted to achieve. For many of us, as adults, this is a highly stressful time and needless to say, throughout this unsettled time, some of our children may feel a level of anxiety too, even if they are not aware of it themselves.

It is not easy for some of them to understand why everything is suddenly different, neither is it easy for us as adults to answer all their questions. The NSPCC have created a section on their website called "*Talking to a child worried about coronavirus*" which gives help and advice in four sections:

- Talk about feelings and worries
- Keep in touch with family and friends and balance screen time
- Try to create structure and routine
- Help give children a sense of control

You may find this useful as you consider how to make weekdays and weekends feel different and how to manage the two week Easter holiday. It will be important for children **to have a break** from their work packs and to enjoy fun and relaxing activities; that **includes you** as parents too!

General Updates:

This week the government has confirmed that we will not be completing any of our usual **statutory assessments** ranging from Foundation Stage Profiled, phonics testing in Year 1, KS1 and 2 SATs and the new Year 4 times table testing.

All our **Key Worker** children will continue to access daily **childcare** throughout the Easter holiday within Shadwell Primary School, including Easter Friday and Monday; our staff are working very hard to sustain this provision for these children and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them once again for supporting our national effort in this way.

Given the circumstances of this academic year, I have reviewed the format of the **school reports** for children and our teachers will soon begin to start writing, with a greater focus on effort and comments about your child's attitude, rather than overall progress (you might be able to use



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this as 'leverage' if required whilst home-schooling!). Reports will be distributed to parents in July and should we return to school before this time, our revised format will remain in place this year.

We have reviewed the **work-packs** that we are sending to the children after the Easter holiday; this work will have a daily focus so that you are able to acknowledge all they have achieved and completed within a day.

We are thrilled with the number of children and parents who have accessed their children's class email to support learning this week – thank you for working with us in this way. Sadly, due to our agreed Code of Conduct and for parity and equality purposes, we are unable to support learning via video link. Foundation Stage will continue to provide phonic sessions for our youngest children however we would encourage you and your children to enjoy a break over Easter in anticipation of our aforementioned new work pack, due for arrival on 20th April.

And finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Easter period. I wish you all well; I will continue to write with updates to remain in touch throughout this period.

With kind regards,

Sarah Richards

Executive Head Teacher

Bramham Shadwell Federation

Excellence for All



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