

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

I do hope you are all safe and well. I have spoken to many families over the last few weeks and thankfully, so far as a community we seem to have avoided any serious illnesses. I do hope this continues and we all follow the guidelines to ensure life can return to normal very soon.

I have been asked many times about when schools will reopen but, like everyone, I just do not know. We desperately miss the children and normal life and cannot wait to welcome everyone back safe and well but we cannot say when that will be. Personally I think it will be around half term but we are in the hands of the experts and the science. If and when I hear anything I will share.

In the meantime please continue with your basic routines. We are constantly adding new resources and links to the website and there are many and varied very good options for learning on the internet. With my family, I have found resources we like (some recommended by school and others we have found) and we try and spend the morning doing around two hours of activities. Like I have said previously it is not perfect, but it really does not have to be. In addition we remain active with online workouts and we spend lots of time in the garden – it has never been so well maintained! But please do not stress. Be led by your children – it is better to leave it for a day rather than cause arguments and upset.

I understand it can be stressful and a struggle especially if you are working from home. If you can do nothing else please continue to read, do some basic maths and pray. Also at the moment Collins and Oxford Owl are allowing free access to their e-reading books. Just register here <http://collins.co.uk> and [www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk)

But please remember the most important thing at this most stressful time; Love, hugs and reassurance.

The teachers will be adding to the class blogs at least weekly and please remember we can always be contacted on the school email or telephone. Many children have written to us or sent pictures on Twitter. This has been fantastic, please keep them coming. You can follow us and share on Twitter @StHughPrimary.

Please stay safe

God bless

Mark Mountcastle