

Friday 3rd April

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. In these most unusual of times, keeping a healthy perspective is the most important thing.

Although still in hospital, Kim Neville is continuing to slowly improve. She has enjoyed her first meal and is conversing with her family. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for all your prayers and good wishes at this time. The outpouring of love is a real measure of the wonderful community we are.

I would now like to put some perspective on 'homelearning' and write not as your headteacher but as a parent with a child at St Hugh of Lincoln. Even as a teacher I can find home-schooling stressful because at home we cannot replicate school – and I urge you not to.

It took us a while but we have managed to find some type of routine. I say a while because in these strange times some things are more important; love, hugs and reassurance to name a few. We endeavour to begin work between 9.30 and 10am following some type of workout (there are many on YouTube). Together we do some maths, reading, writing and spelling using the resources given out. We then pick one or two other tasks set by the teacher and do at last one. In the afternoon we draw, paint, bake and get out in the garden. We never do more than 2 hours 'work' each day. It is not perfect but it does not need to be. My daughter will not finish all the work set and we will not try to. It is not a race, the health and mental well being of our children should be the priority.

Remember if you do nothing else – at least daily try to pray, read and do a little maths. It is enough.

Although no services in church, next week is Holy Week a very special time for our community. Please find some extra time in the week to read, discuss and celebrate the Easter story as a family.

We are here if you need us and if you call or email we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Stay safe

Mark Mountcastle