



Wallace Fields Junior School

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Dear Parent / Carers,

Easter Update

This is an update in order to ensure that we are keeping you informed. These two weeks have proven to be a challenge, but one which all the staff have risen to and they have been working hard to ensure that the children have home learning to be doing and at the same time ensuring tasks are achievable within your usual day. This has never been intended as home schooling but as directed learning at home. A few hours of focused learning, to be mixed in with physical exercise and creative fun, and reading, not solely dependent on computer based activities.

I do hope that your families have remained in good health and that you are coping with the challenge of the government restrictions, put in place to ensure the health of the nation. We are facing a global challenge and by drawing together we can get through these testing times.

The teachers have been happy to see the results of some of the projects and tasks set but please do remember that the teachers will not be formally assessing or marking the completed tasks. Thanks for sending us the pictures though – we do share and enjoy them.

The teachers and staff are working on a rota through the Easter break to maintain care for the pupils of key workers and the vulnerable children. However, in order to ensure the staff get a break they will not be responding to emails or setting the same level of tasks that they have during the last two weeks. The office will also not be available. The teachers will be sending out some ideas for the Easter break along with some helpful links and generalised tasks for the children to complete during the break.

I ask that you understand this decision and recognise the need for the teaching staff to step back from their duties for the two weeks of Easter. The key worker children who are in school will not get formal planned sessions but more open ended games, artistic activities, physical exercise and informal tasks requiring few resources. We hope that you will do the same with your children over the Easter break. The children will still be able to access to Times Tables Rock Stars, Spelling Shed, and Mathletics and of course they need to be reading quality texts regularly – so please provide them with time in the day to read in a suitable environment. They can draw, create and write as much as possible if given some basic equipment and paper. See the teacher suggestions for more detail.

I am so delighted with the amount of positive comments and sincere support from you the parents and carers. You have allowed the children some focussed time each day and encouraged them to balance work with play and creative tasks. It is very much appreciated and I thank you for that support. As educators we are well aware of the pressures this puts upon you the parents. The summer term begins on 20th April 2020 – on which date teachers and staff will again begin to set tasks and challenges for the children to do each week and be available by email. They will return to replying to your emails and will continue to provide tasks for your child's home learning. The office will again be available for emergency contact.

Remember with the possible increase in the use of internet resources you will need to ensure you protect your children to keep them safe online. In addition to all the online safety learning and knowledge your child has gained at school, you can promote safe online behaviour and here are the latest government advice links to help you do this:



Where can I go to get support to help keep my child safe online?

There is a lot of support available to keep your child safe online. Below are some useful links to help parents and carers:

- [Thinkyouknow](#) (advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online)
- [Internet matters](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [Parent info](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [LGfL](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [Net-aware](#) (support for parents and careers from the NSPCC)

Do have this conversation with them about their safety online.

Thank you again for your ongoing support, positivity, endurance with your own children and I hope you all stay safe and well.

Kindest regards

Steve Lee
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