



Newsletter Friday 22nd May 2020

School Closure Week 9



Wednesday 20th May was Thank You Teacher Day! Seeing as all my days have blended into one, due to a lack of regular timetable and school bells, I had forgotten. BUT then, this amazing video landed in my inbox. WHAT AN INCREDIBLE SURPRISE. 😊

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=6&v=ChwZF13x90o&feature=emb_logo

A huge thank you, to all that contributed or have sent in kind words. It means so much to all the staff, especially in recent weeks. I wanted to take this opportunity to personally say a huge **'WOW you are amazing'** to all my staff. Everyone has worked as a team to find solutions to problems we could never have predicted. Your dedication, patience and determination shines through – it takes a big heart to help shape little minds, I am honoured to be your headteacher.

This week we have contacted all our families to discuss the potential re-opening of school in June. Never, have anyone of us had to make this decision before and we support your judgement. Specific details of opening will be sent out next week to those attending school should we re-open.

This week, Mrs Dennis tells us about her plans for enhancing the teaching of RE in our school. RE provides opportunities for children to reflect and analyse, to discuss and debate, to explore and discover and to learn more about the world in which they live. We are proud of Chadsmead's Provision.

Improving how and what we teach in Religious Education.

Due to the pause in our school life, I have been using my time to adapt our lessons and add extra drama and art to our RE lessons to bring the stories we study to life.



When I haven't been at mini- school, I have been working from home, completing webinars and online courses to make resources for RE and connect with other RE teachers around the country. Each week there is a Twitter chat for RE. I have learnt about how we can increase our children's knowledge of world faiths and how to help the children understand the topic words that we use all the time in RE.

I am using virtual trips to religious buildings to enhance our trips that we already take the children on. I am sad that I haven't been able to teach the Spirited Arts competition unit to all the children, but the details can be found on this website should you be looking for alternative home learning, or even just want to satisfy a creative desire:

<https://www.natre.org.uk/about-natre/projects/spirited-arts/spirited-arts-2020/>

Over the next couple of days, I will be planning our Interfaith week, which we hope to run in the next academic year. I am excited to have this time to plan experiences for the children for when we get back to school.