

Shirley Community Primary School

Shirley Pre-School



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Headteacher Update: Your Child's Learning – Tuesday 24th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly I hope everyone is well at home today. I am sure many of you will have heard the latest advice and recommendations from our Government – I hope you have been able to make the necessary adjustments to your daily routines without too much disruption or worry. These are difficult times for everyone and I am sure that we will be able to pull through together, by doing all that we can to help and think of each other.

Today has been the first official day of your child receiving learning at home via our school website. Thank you for your cooperation and words of support. This is a new realm for all of us, and we are pleased that so many of you are finding the activities useful and supportive for your child.

Staff have been working hard to create learning activities which fulfil the needs of the National Curriculum, are set at the right level for your child, whilst stretching and supporting them as necessary. There are a wealth of activities for all ages being posted each day – for English, Maths, Foundation Subjects and many other fun, practical opportunities too for you to join in with – and we are doing this to keep learning and a sense of 'normality' going as is possible. We have also had a few questions and queries from you, which I will respond to below:

- If you do not have access to a printer, please do not worry. If it looks like you need to send something back to school that is a printed sheet, ask your child to copy onto plain paper and answer any questions there, take a photo and send back, or just a short email comment to the teacher.
- We will not be printing off sheets for you to come and fetch at school. The latest instruction is for everyone to go out **once a day for exercise only** – do not use that up on coming to school for work. We need to stay indoors as much as possible, to keep everyone safer.
- Some of you have asked for further activities if your child finishes – we will be making these available soon, in the form of websites, or open ended investigative activities. Check our website for that.

Staff will be doing their best to respond to questions and requests, but will be busy each day so please be patient with us. We also have a small team of people at school at present, to keep the school running, and to keep more at home, so it may take us a little longer to respond to requests than normal.

We completely appreciate how things are changing in many homes too, with many of you working from home and having other children who need access to learning as well, with even greater pressures on wifi for everyone! Please don't worry if you are delayed in returning some types of learning – we are being flexible and understanding, as I am sure you will be with us. This is new to everyone, and patience on both sides will help us through this new way of working. If there is one core thing you can hopefully fall back on it is **encouraging reading** – books, websites, magazines, newspapers, blogs, cereal boxes – all reading helps.

Our very best wishes to everyone – stay safe and stay in.

Mr Cattermole



