

Keeping in Touch – 7th May 2020

Dear all,

I hope you have all had another positive and productive week at home.

On the following page you will find a special message from all of us in school for all of our children, so please do share it with them. Many thanks to Mrs Brown for coming up with the lovely idea and co-ordinating us all to display our creative talents, and to Mrs O'Brien for working some IT magic to make the final product look so good. We really do all miss you very much and can't wait to see you again.

Of the different people I have spoken to this week, a number have mentioned that they and their children are starting to find the situation we all find ourselves in increasingly difficult. So don't feel alone if that chimes a bell with you. How we are having to live at the moment is very alien for us all, and so many of the things that bring us joy and fun have been taken away. But try and hold onto the positives, and see every small thing that you do as an achievement to be celebrated. Please don't get worried if there are days when the school work seems overwhelming, just do your best and get in touch with us if there is anything we can do to help.

As I write this the Government advisory group is sitting and discussing what the next step for the country is, and the media is full of leaks and suggestions of how things might change for us all over the coming days and weeks. But I, like you, will know nothing definite until the Prime Minister makes his statement on Sunday regarding any possible re-opening of schools. I know that you will be keen to know what this will mean for your children and family as soon as possible. However, I hope you can understand that it will no doubt precipitate a huge amount of planning work to turn what are likely to be given as a generic set of requirements into a workable system for our school with the limits we face with space and staffing, amongst other things. I have put a structure in place across the week to enable the necessary procedures and systems to be determined, consulting and working with all the relevant people. Acorn, as they have throughout this crisis, will be taking a leading role in supporting schools and helping us to manage whatever is asked of us. I will communicate with you as soon as I am able to regarding how we will facilitate any re-opening that is asked of us, but it will likely take until the end of the week before the plan is ready to be shared. I hope you understand this lag, and can be patient in the intervening days. As always, we will be putting the children at the heart of every decision we make: how we can keep them, and the staff, safe; how we can best educate them within the constraints we are given; how we can give them social interaction and community that they are so sorely missing at the moment; and how we can best improve their wellbeing through all of this.

Next week looks like it will be busy for lots of us in different ways, so please make the most of the bank holiday tomorrow and the long weekend to rest and relax. Please remember that we are respecting this and no daily work activities will be posted on the school website tomorrow. And hopefully we will all be inspired by the stories from VE Day to find the spirit and determination to face our current battles.

Best wishes,
Lindsey Hermon



A message from Keevil Church of England Academy

