

Keeping in Touch – 15th May 2020

Dear all,

I hope you all enjoyed the glorious weather over the bank holiday and found a way to celebrate and commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

Accompanying this letter this week are two other letters, both of which explain and detail our plans as a school to implement the Government's directive of a phased re-opening of primary schools from next month. One of these comes from Sara Edwards the CEO of Acorn Education Trust, and one is from me. I am afraid my one is rather a long letter, but this is due to the large amount of information that we need to share with you. Much as we say to children in school when they are doing reading comprehension activities, please read the letter through carefully twice to help you to absorb all that it is saying! Of course we are here for you to get in touch with, with any questions or concerns, so please don't hesitate to do that. But we have tried very hard to pack in all the information we can and have into the letter.

This weekend should have been the annual FOKS Scarecrow Trail, which has very sadly become one of the many casualties of the pandemic. But despite missing the wonderful camaraderie and sense of achievement that the event brings (maybe not so much all the hard work...), do remember our Inter-House Competition to create a loo roll scarecrow of a book character is still running. For more details please go to:

https://www.keevil.wilts.sch.uk/website/house_points_celebration/475116

I have more wonderful news to share with you about another of our amazing children – Bertie Steptoe in Y1. These words are from his mum, Laura:

"As some of you may be aware my wonderful little 6 year old Bertie was taken poorly at Christmas time. It's been a long waiting game, whilst we have taken him to see specialists and he has been poked, prodded and tested.

We have managed to keep his illness relatively under control by adapting his eating habits and regular pain relief whilst we waited for test results, and then last week after another painful 'flare up' the test results came back.....He has been diagnosed with Ulcerative colitis, which is a condition that causes inflammation of the bowel (IBD). This hopefully can be controlled by medication but is something that Bertie will have to live with for the rest of his life.

I've shed many tears as any parent would be so concerned for his health but Bertie is not letting this stop him! My amazing son has asked if he can do a sponsored Bike ride to raise awareness of the disease and raise funds for the charity that support children through this.

So on the 23rd May 2020 Bertie will cycle 15 miles around the local area in order raise awareness and funds.

I am bursting with pride that my little 6 year old wants to do this and I am hoping that you will show him your support. You can simply sponsor him using the link on this page and pop him a message of encouragement into the comments, and share this post to your own profile.

We will be releasing the route later in the week, and once this is done it would be great to see some of you along the way giving him a wave if he passes you. Obviously abiding to social distancing rules."

We are so proud of Bertie for the resilience he has shown throughout what has been a very challenging time for him. Not only has he done this, but he is also turning something difficult into something so positive and inspiring for others. If you would like to support Bertie you can at:

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/LauraSteptoe>

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and safe week.

Best wishes,
Lindsey Hermon

