

Keeping in Touch – 27th March 2020

Dear all,

We find ourselves at the end of our first week of school being closed. I hope that in amongst all the strangeness and the loss of all the things we can't do at the moment, you have found or re-discovered things that have brought some much needed joy and humour into your lives. In my household it is family basketball games in which I am soundly beaten by my children every time!

Hopefully the learning packs and activities that have been set by teachers on the website have provided you with learning tasks for children to be doing every day as you establish a new routine at home. I appreciate (from my own experience of home-schooling!) that a number of on-line platforms such as Times Tables Rockstars are not coping with the volume of traffic that they are currently receiving. Please be patient, hopefully these issues will be rectified over the coming days and weeks.

Behind the scenes at school we are working hard to find new ways to deliver learning remotely. Although we have been given no clear indication by the Government, the cancelling of all exams (SATs, GCSEs and A-levels) suggests that schools will be closed for a while. We are in the process of setting up new areas within the school website. These will be accessed by the children with a personal log-in. They allow teachers to set daily maths and English activities in a format through which they can give feedback to the children. Also a means to set weekly projects in other curriculum areas. We are working hard to have this up and running for after the Easter holidays (Monday 20th April).

Once this is in place we will also look to set up 'blogs' in these protected areas of the website, which will allow children to share work with their classmates. In addition we will look at adding extra pages to the website that will provide you with further ideas and resources to support your child through this time at home, for example mindfulness tips and activities. As well we are exploring safe on-line platforms which will enable teachers and TAs to 'video' chat with children on a regular basis.

I will keep you informed of all these developments as we get them established, so you know what, when and how to access them.

In the meantime, long may the sun keep shining! And if there is anything I can help you with please do not hesitate to get in touch with me via email to lh@keevil.wilts.sch.uk.

I hope you all keep safe and well.

Best wishes,
Lindsey Hermon