



Coaley Church of England Academy

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15th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

First of all, I want to thank you all for getting used to this new situation so quickly and adapting so well. It has been a monumental team effort to get to this point and I want to thank you all for your part as we swing into a new way of teaching.

To be honest, it was not what I was expecting at the beginning of term and I am so proud of all the staff with how well they have adapted to these new arrangements. It's not a natural environment for a teacher to be stuck behind a laptop all day and all of them are finding it hard not being with your children, teaching loads and having fun. Luckily the TAs are spending their days with the children in school so they get all the good stuff! However, I know that they are creating videos, planning work, connecting with your child and giving feedback to support you the best way they can. However, they are each allocated to a class so they can be on call for any emergencies.

I also wanted to say a massive thank you to all our key workers who are keeping the country safe and moving, we really are all in this together. Included in this 'shout-out' has to be all of you heroes at home who are supporting your children with their learning. We really couldn't do it without you and all your efforts are really appreciated by all of us in school. We really are one big Coaley family!

We are acutely aware that some aspects of our remote learning requires computers at home, and this can be tricky, especially with many children accessing learning online. If anyone wishes to borrow a laptop from school to use during lockdown, please can you let us know as we may be able to help supply you with one. This is the same for those unable to get internet connectivity as we may be able to help with this too. We are also still happy to support you with printed sheets and exercise books. Many of you I know are using a blended approach. For example, you might be watching the videos on a Smart phone or Xbox and then recording answers on the printed sheet or in an exercise book. You can also upload work to be marked from Smart phones too. Sometimes this approach can help share the limited computers and tablets you have at home. Please Dojo your child's class teacher to find out more.

The main difference with last summer is the sheer numbers of children we are now having in school. At Coaley, it is 50% of the children we would normally have if the school was fully open. Whilst we want to maintain continuous bubbles across the week if we can, we are aware of the numbers of children we have in school compared to the limited staff we have and the jobs they now have to do. The DfE have updated their guidance and DGAT have asked us to look again at who is coming in and if any key worker family would like to set up a part time arrangement to only send their child in on days that they are working. We want to continue to support you and we are happy to continue current arrangement if this works for you. You can still access the learning online on days at home but we are asking for your help to reduce numbers of children and adults in school where we can. Please chat to us if you want to discuss this further.

Please remember that we are here for you all. Please continue to keep in touch via Dojo, Google Classrooms, Zoom or simply speak to us on the phone as we are here to help. We are always willing to hear your thoughts and take on board advice - we are in this together!

Take care and stay safe.

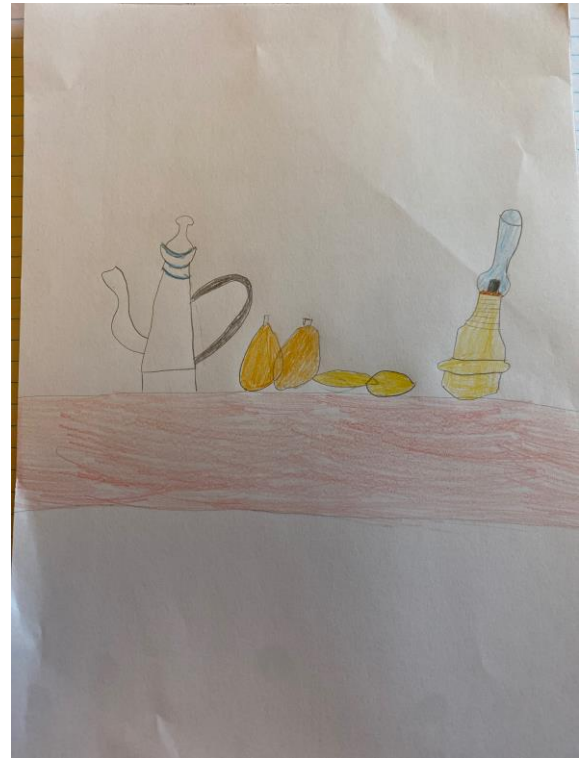
Yours

Richard Lucas
Executive Headteacher

Artwork

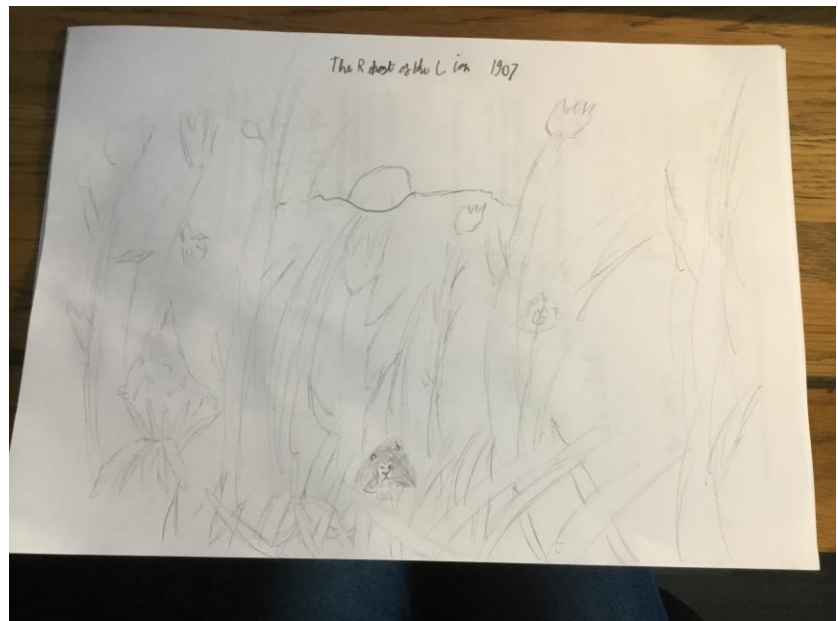
Mrs Lowe has set learning this week for the children to create a piece of artwork in the style of Henri Rousseau. She received some lovely artwork from children at home.

Phoebe



Rosa

Jamie



New Team Member

We love to get outside at Coaley. All the children in school are doing one afternoon of PE and Forest School every week and we have just managed to secure a real-life England rugby player to school. She will be taking the children for PE and we know she will be fantastic addition to the Coaley team. Welcome Miss Connie Powell to Coaley!!



Proud Cloud Certificates:

Robins: Daisy, Jess

Starlings: Anna-Mae

Owls: Sammy, Molly

Values Certificates:

Robins: Dakota

Starlings: Freddie

Owls: Sam

Growth Mindset Certificates:

Robins: Beatrix for working hard at home, finding out about snails.

Starlings: Lewis for working so hard in all your work this week.

Owls: Declan for working hard on completing your work.

WE ARE COALEY - We Believe

We Respect

We Belong