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Coronavirus Update #10

7th May 2020

Dear Parents,



St Margaret's Academy



VE DAY

75TH ANNIVERSARY

A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION

8 - 10 MAY 2020

I hope you are keeping well and managing to adapt to this new way of living and working.

We still don't know when we will reopen and we await the government's announcement on Sunday when we might find out more. In the meantime, teachers and teaching assistants continue to lead and develop home learning practice while all staff continue to work hard on various training and improvements to the school. Remember to check out the [smiling newsletters](#) on the web for fun news from teaching assistants and celebrations and news of home learning from teachers.

This week has been national Deaf Awareness Week. Check out *Smiles in May* to see a [fantastic video](#) from our Hearing Support Centre team. Staff from the team would normally put on activities related to deafness during Deaf Awareness Week. This year they have created a video for everyone to join in with and hope you enjoy it.

If you would like to learn more sign language there are websites for BSL practice. For example the website below has videos to practise particular topics

<https://www.schoolofsignlanguage.com/learn-online/learn-online-free-only/>

As always, if you have any worries please don't hesitate to contact us, whether it's for help with home learning or other stresses brought on by this challenge.

As we move into tomorrow's Bank Holiday to mark 75 years since the end of World War 2 in Europe, I've been reflecting on the many similarities to today's coronavirus challenge. There is a huge community spirit now as there was then and so many silver linings that bode well for the future. As the welfare state and the NHS emerged from the WW2, I'm sure we will also see many new positives emerge from Covid-19. So hold on to those silver linings everybody, stay positive and keep well.

Covid-19 Reminders and Updates

The key message is still to **stay at home** and only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home). If you go out, stay 2 metres (6 feet) away from other people at all times. Wash your hands as soon as you get home. Do not meet others, even friends or family. You can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms.

KINDNESS RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY ASPIRATION

If you have a new and continuous cough or a high temperature stay at home for 7 days if you live alone, stay at home for 14 days if you live with others, including all household members. Only use NHS 111 if your symptoms get worse or are no better after isolation. Guidance on what to do while staying at home if you have suspected coronavirus can be found here by clicking this link to the [NHS website](#).

The most up to date guidance for parents can still be accessed via this link and it includes lots of questions and answers that you might find useful:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Department for Education helpline for parents - phone: 0800 046 8687,

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk, opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday) and 10am to 4pm (Saturday and Sunday) **Note: on Friday 8th the opening hours are 10-4**

Updates on COVID-19 can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

For games and resources about good hygiene and bugs, try the e-bug website which is being run in conjunction with Public Health England. [Click here](#).

As always, very best wishes to you and your families,



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)