



Executive Headteacher: Mr Jim Williams

'To learn every day, to help each other and to be happy.'

26th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have been able to access our school website and Purple Mash, and have found it a useful starting point for home-learning with your child/ren.

The next two weeks are our Easter Holidays, therefore our more formal learning activities will stop and our staff will be less available than they have been.

We are aware that (and this is the case in my own house hold) for some children having some structure to the day and access to learning has helped to occupy and settle them, and as you will be unable to leave the house during the next two weeks you may be hoping for the leaning to continue. Therefore, we have set up some optional learning opportunities:

1. **Espresso** – Espresso is a website that we use within school. The site has thousands of videos, activities and games linked to all areas of the curriculum from Reception to Y6. A login to this site has been shared on your Purple Mash Blog.
2. **Yumu Music At Home** – This is web-based music program. Please see the linked letter to find out more (again your child's login has been shared on your Purple Mash Blog).
3. **STEM** - If you do not have access to the internet or have a range of different aged children at home, this list of activities are easily adaptable and require little resources. Please see the linked document.

This is the first time we have set up and used remote learning, and have had to do so with little preparation time, so we appreciate your support and patience. If you have any questions, concerns or feedback, please email myself (afrost@northamfederation.devon.ch.uk) or contact another member of staff at the admin addresses above.

Please see overleaf for a message from Mr Malyn (Assistant headteacher, Teacher and Dad!).

Kind regards

Amy Frost
Deputy Headteacher



SCHOOL
MEMBER



Dear All

There is lots of talk and discussion regarding home learning and I wanted to reassure you about a few key points:

- 1) **You are doing great.** These are very different times and our children are all going to react in lots of different ways, so it is important that you continue to do what your child needs rather than what you feel you are expected to be doing.
- 2) **Be creative when learning at home.** We think it is really important at this time that we don't dictate how the learning in your household takes place – allow your child to take the lead!
- 3) **Don't let social media worry you.** You are the only person who knows what your child needs.
- 4) **Don't presume the best learning can be found online.** If you don't have access to the internet, there is a world of learning waiting away from screens and apps. We can't wait to hear about the model that your child made, the flower they grew from a seed or the bedroom that they helped to reorganise.
- 5) **Find the joy in learning together.** Yesterday, myself and my daughter made a cake. It involved fractions, estimating, measuring, comparing and converting – all objectives from the curriculum that we could've sat down and worked through on a worksheet.
- 6) **Look for different opportunities.** From doing daily PE with Joe Wicks, dancing with Oti Mabuse from Strictly Come Dancing, learning to draw with famous illustrators or listening to authors read books, there are many activities that we encourage you and your child to have a go at – that at normal times we wouldn't have access to!
- 7) We find ourselves in the most unique of circumstances and, more than anything, our children need us to be there for them. **Please, take this time to enjoy spending time together** and be there to reassure them when they are anxious.

We are here with you, every step of the way.

Sam Malyn
Assistant Headteacher