



Headteacher's Blog

20th April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today marks the beginning of the summer term and although we haven't had our usual opportunities to get away and visit other parts of the world, I hope you managed to get some rest and spend some quality time with your children – even if it was in your back gardens.

The teachers are looking forward to setting new tasks and activities for your children to complete over the coming weeks. This will now be supported by the offering from the BBC which we are just getting familiar with. Please note that teachers will continue to set work according to what they think is best for the children so they might not include all of the content included on the BBC website. As I said in previous newsletters, please do not worry if you do not have time for children to complete all of the work set. We know that there are lots of demands on your time so we will be happy with any amount of work done by the children.

Keeping Safe Online and Using Video Chat

We are all getting used to using different ways of keeping in touch, including using video chat platforms such as Zoom. I know that some classes are meeting by video and their teachers have been invited. Please can I ask that children are accompanied by an adult for any chat sessions which you have invited teachers along to. Teachers will not be able to take part if they are not aware that all children have an adult supervising them. I would strongly advise that parents supervise all video chats so they can be satisfied their children are completely safe.

Children are also likely to be spending much more time online at the moment. Please take some time to read the government guidance found in this [link](#), related to keeping children safe when using the internet. I know that this does not always make easy reading but it does describe very real risks which all parents should take into consideration.

Childcare for Key Workers and Vulnerable Children

We have an online booking system for key worker parents to book childcare provision during this period of school closure. If you have not received an invitation to access the booking system over the last few weeks but require a place, please email the school office and we will add you to the distribution list. The government are strongly advising that if children can stay safely at home, they should, to limit the chance of the virus spreading. To protect our staff and the children accessing this service, please can I ask that you follow this advice and only request a place if it is absolutely necessary.

Weekly Headteacher's Challenge

I thought it might be fun to set a separate challenge for children to take part in each week. This will have a slightly different focus to the regular curriculum content. So, here is my first challenge:

On Wednesday 22nd April, it is Earth Day. Although the Earth currently faces a huge challenge, we are reminded every day of the amazing planet on which we live and the beauty of the natural world around us. We can see this when we look out of our windows, in our gardens and when we go out for daily exercise.

Your challenge this week is to share something which celebrates our amazing planet, for example, when I go on my daily walk, I see lambs in the fields and I see bluebells, ferns and other plants appearing in the woods. You could take a photo or draw a picture of what you find or present your idea in any way you wish. You can share your challenges on Twitter, via email or by uploading to the school website. I look forward to hearing about your explorations.



Jenby's in schools - Home activity book

Jenby's are an organisation who we are just beginning to work with. They work together with schools as a whole community to promote and improve children's mental health. They have kindly provided some activity books aimed at supporting parents and carers in helping children to work through thoughts and anxieties they might be feeling during the current crisis. They have also organised a competition which you might like your children to take part in. Further details and the activity books can be found attached to this email. Please send all competition entries to Mrs Liddle who is organising this: traceyliddle@saltaire.bradford.sch.uk. You now have until the end of this week if you would still like to contribute a competition entry.

Staff Video

We have put together a video to welcome the children back to a new term. We hope you enjoy it and feel inspired by their inspiring messages. The link to the video can be found [here](#).

I hope you all have an enjoyable week. Keep safe at home.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rob Whitehead'.

Rob Whitehead
Headteacher