

7th May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Here we are, coming to the end of another week! Thankfully, it has been a sunnier one and let's hope the good weather continues as we look ahead to the bank holiday weekend. I hope that you are all safe, well and remain settled in your routines. Just to re-iterate once again, what you are all doing during this time is incredible and I would like to send my thanks for all that you are doing to support your children and each other. Viewing what the children are doing at home on Twitter and knowing what you are sharing with class teachers on email really helps us all feel such a huge sense of pride about our school and our community. Every day, the photos, messages and comments lift the mood and make us smile and laugh! This is tinged with a slight air of sadness though that we are not all together at school, but reassuring to know that the spirit of our community is there, as bright and colourful as it has always been! We await news from the government on Sunday as to how lockdown restrictions may be eased, at which point we should have a little more guidance as to how schools may begin opening more widely. I am hoping I will be able to share some promising and positive news with you early next week with regards to this.

With regards to the home learning this week, I must apologise to some families on behalf of the school who have experienced some problems with receiving the daily work via email. We have looked into this issue and our IT technician has discovered that there has been a problem with our server, which I have been assured has now been rectified. As home learning won't be set again until Monday, if you experience any further problems, please contact your child's class teacher via email and they will be able to send the work to you directly if necessary.

Tomorrow, Friday 8th May, marks the 75th anniversary of V.E Day. Sadly, we cannot hold the celebrations we had planned in school but the National Memorial Arboretum have produced some material for all ages that you may wish to use during this time at home. Please click on the link below to access these resources:

<http://www.thenma.org.uk/plan-your-visit/visiting-for-learning-and-training/learning-from-home/>

As we face some of the most challenging times since the end of the Second World War, now more than ever, it will be important to unite in recognition of service to a nation, just as communities did 75 years ago and we look forward to paying tribute to them.

Paying tribute to those who have given their service during this current crisis is a huge part of our recovery plan as we move in to the next phase, due to be set out by the Prime Minister on Sunday. The staff of Shobnall Primary School and JTMAT are all looking forward to the children returning to school, whenever the government deem this to be safe to do so. Looking ahead, Mrs Knight has begun to make plans to hold a MAT-wide **New Healthy Start Week**, 21st – 25th September 2020, all being well, so we can show our gratitude and support for the NHS and carers. As well as focusing on wellbeing, a proportion of the week will be dedicated to fundraising for the health service and Mrs Knight would like the children to submit some ideas for activities and fundraising ideas that they think would be good for us to participate in. She has asked that any suggestions are emailed to her at year4@shobnall.staffs.sch.uk. We look forward to hearing the children's ideas!

As has been mentioned, any relaxation of lockdown measures will be phased and gradual including the extended reopening of schools. If on Sunday, schools are directly instructed that it is safe to so, we are hoping that adequate and sufficient time will be given to ensure that all of the elements I outlined to you last week can be implemented appropriately. With this in mind, we are anticipating home learning arrangements will need to remain in place, as will the



provision the school currently provides for the children of its' key workers. Within our hub with Mosley Primary Academy, decisions have been made to continue with this provision over half term, as we did during the Easter holiday. We will be at Shobnall then but will be closed on **Monday 25th May 2020**, as this is a designated bank holiday. Again, it is so important to acknowledge our sincerest gratitude to all of our key workers for the tremendous job they are doing during these challenging times. We can't begin to tell you how much we appreciate what you do, thank you!

I hope to be in touch with you early next week with news of developments. Until then, have a restful, relaxing and safe bank holiday weekend!

Take care,

Kind regards,

Mr D Adams
Head Teacher



"Happy children, inspired learners"

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