

# MESSAGE FROM MRS MONEY



Monday 4th May 2020

Dear Families,

Speaking to many of you over the last week it appears that it is not just my children who are tiring of being at home all together! My teenagers are craving time with their friends and Fleur is beginning to struggle without a sense of school routine. All three of my children are certainly not as willing to engage in their home learning as they were at the beginning of the lockdown! I know that I am not alone in these challenges and I have reminded them despite their grumbling that we are doing this for a reason and it is still so important to stay safe, stay home and protect the NHS.

We are all awaiting clarification by the Government in the briefing this coming week. As a parent I too am keen to learn of the plans to reopen schools and how this 'new normal' is going to look for my own children. As a Headteacher I am awaiting guidance on how to open Sandringham in a way which keeps the children and staff as safe as possible. There is much speculation about when schools will reopen, which children will be returning to school first, part time phased returns, staggered starts and finishes. As a school leader and a parent I will hear this news at the same time as you do. However, please be reassured that I am already thinking of how as a school community we can work together to get Sandringham up and running again. I suspect that it will not be fully open for a while, however, I am sure that you will agree after weeks of complete closure, some time in school is better than none at all!

If your children are asking questions about coronavirus or are becoming increasingly anxious I would recommend sharing the story (attached with this email) called 'Dave the Dog is worried about coronavirus'. This explains the virus and the impact on our lives but is very appropriate and reassuring for young children.



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As parents you may also be feeling very anxious or are having to have difficult conversations with your children following bereavement of a loved one due to Covid 19. Last week all staff have accessed online bereavement training to ensure that we can support our children and families as best as we can. Please see attached a poster from Jigsaw who are amazing external agency offering a bereavement helpline.

Mrs Rachel Thomas (our music teacher) has asked me to pass on some tips on keeping your children musically engaged during lockdown.

*'There are some great musical events being streamed online at the minute, from West End shows to classical concerts to entertain children and their parents, but in particular I wanted to mention the education work being produced at the Royal Albert Hall. If you go onto their website you can find musically accompanied stories for the fives and under as well as fantastic live demonstrations of the different orchestral instruments which will be of particular relevance to Year 2. In addition they are streaming live events every Saturday for you and your children to dance, enjoy and relax too!'*

<https://www.royalalberthall.com/about-the-hall/news/2020/april/meet-the-orchestra-with-alberts-band/>

The children have been working hard at home completing their Mathletics challenges online. In a 'normal' school week we would celebrate the class and children who have achieved the highest scores. Although we can't print out the certificates or award the cup at the moment I can tell you that the class with the highest score this week is FOXES (a huge 71,262 points!) Well done to Mia (Hedgehogs), Dawid (Otters), Felicity (Foxes), William L (Rabbits) and Zach (Otters) for being this week's top scorers across the school.

As you are aware this Friday is a Bank Holiday in recognition of VE day. Included with this newsletter are a variety of fun activities which you may like to try with your children over the long weekend. These are of course optional so please choose what appeals to you and your children. Although the Bank Holiday and this important celebration will feel different this year due to the current situation I do hope that you all enjoy your weekend when it finally arrives.

Keep supporting each other, keep safe and keep smiling.

Mrs Money

*"Believe that there's light at the end of the tunnel. Believe that you might be that light for someone else" - Kobi Yamada*

