



Small School Big Ideas

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A Nut Free School

30th March 2020

Dear Parents,

It feels very strange writing a newsletter when school is closed, but in an attempt to keep some sense of normality, here goes!

I am conscious that there is much on social media about home schooling and want to reassure you that we also want you to have quality time together as families, as well as trying to do the tasks teachers are setting. Please use this time to enjoy board games or jigsaws, to read, to talk and to get some fresh air in your garden, weather permitting of course. We are also aware that some of you are also working from home and this brings with it its own challenges, so please just do your best.

As I wrote last week, school is now closed until further notice. The school email address is manned and the admin team can pick up telephone messages left, so you can contact us if needed still. I can also be contacted through Seesaw. Any Naburn children of key workers needing a school place can now attend Fishergate Primary. Please contact our school admin team in the first instance and we will work with Fishergate to ensure your child is cared for. This arrangement is subject to change but we will continue to keep you informed.

Seesaw

Many thanks to those of you who have been keeping in touch through Seesaw. It is lovely to see what the children have been up to. Teachers will continue to use this and Google Classroom to provide work during our time away from school. Please bear in mind that some teachers are also juggling their own children or working at Fishergate, so please bear with us if there is sometimes a delay in responses.

TTRockstars

A reminder to make sure your child keeps going on Rockstars to keep their times table knowledge going and to build up their speed and stamina.

Wellbeing

The NSPCC has created a new webpage with information and advice for parents or carers who are worried a child or young person may be struggling with their mental health or has anxiety about Coronavirus. The webpage includes information on: talking about feelings and worries; keeping in touch and balancing screen time; ways to create structure and routine; and helping to give children a sense of control. Visit the NSPCC website for more details.

Twinkl and other free resources

Should you wish to do more work at home than the teachers are setting, please visit our Home learning Page on the school website, which has a range of other activities to do and websites to visit. In particular, Twinkl have launched a free home learning resource which may be useful. Visit <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/parents>

School History Project

We had hoped to do a whole school history project at some point in the summer term but now that things are all so uncertain, I have decided to begin it now instead. I will be posting extracts from our old school log books and other documents on Twitter and Facebook, together with ideas about work this could lead to at home. Over time this will give us a flavour of what our school used to be like and help to keep this very special building and its history alive in our minds even though we are not there.

Easter Holiday Arrangements

Over the Easter period, teachers will not be setting work on Seesaw, to allow everyone to have a rest from home schooling and to enjoy time together, and also because staff from our school will be working at Fishergate, helping to run a holiday club for children of key workers. If you fall into this category, you will have received a letter about this last week.

Please see below some whole school Easter activity ideas which you can spend as much time on as you wish, but which may help if the weather is bad and you need some inspiration!

- Easter Egg Competition – we would usually run this in school, but you can still do it at home! Using no more than two boiled eggs, be as creative as you can! Your child could create a whole scene, just one individual character or a group. It could be based on a book, film, news story, games show or whatever they like! There will be a prize for each year group, awarded when we return to school (I can't guarantee it will be an Easter egg, but it will involve chocolate!). Please ensure that it is your child's own work, tempting though it may be to help them! Give the entry a title and email a photo of your child's entry to school by 5pm on Monday 20th April.
- 'From my window' project – Look out of your window and see what you can find. Children can write stories, poems, descriptions, diaries, recounts, posters, plays, fact files etc. and/or create art work about what they can see from their window. This could include the garden, the street, the sky.....entirely up to you and your child. You could look out of your window as much as you want. Could be every day at the same time, once all holiday or once an hour for a whole day, or any other ideas you have. Entirely up to you! The work can be presented however you wish and can be posted on Seesaw or Google classroom, but it will not be looked at by teachers until after the Easter holidays.

Keep safe everyone and I hope to see you soon,
Brenda Christison
Headteacher