



Small School Big Ideas

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A Nut Free School

4th May 2020

Dear Parents,

There has been much speculation in the media this weekend over when and how schools will return, so I'd like to start this newsletter by reassuring you that I am keeping a close eye on the news and the advice given by the government. I have been busy putting in place various plans and possible scenarios, 'just in case', but at present we don't know any more than you. A working party has been set up in York and this group is meeting regularly to prepare and plan for reopening and I meet at least twice a week with the City of York Headteachers to keep up to date with plans. As always, I will keep you updated as I know more, but for now, the message remains the same: **it is safer to all stay at home**. We are still working closely with St. Oswald's and Fishergate to offer places for children of our key workers who cannot be safely cared for at home.

The teachers are working hard to prepare learning for your child and it is lovely to see that almost everyone is now posting work and news on Seesaw. I realise that some of you are finding home learning very difficult, but please just keep trying your best. That's all anyone can ask at the moment. Please continue to share on Seesaw as it is a great way to keep in touch. Many schools have had to very quickly start to use Seesaw to communicate, so it is fantastic that we were one step ahead!

Mrs Wood has trialled a live 'Zoom' session and has had such great feedback that she is planning another this week. She commented on how lovely it was to see the children's faces and this is something which we are all missing. She and Mrs King also noted how the babies in our school family have all been very busy growing in our time away from each other! Mrs Rotchell and Miss Brett are also looking at ways to keep in touch with the children, so watch out this week for news of their plans. We are all learning new ways of working, so thank you for your support as we, along with every school in the country, change the way we teach and learn.

Talking of communicating.....I hope you have all had the chance to see our video message. If not, here is the link: <https://vimeo.com/412687244?ref=em-share>

School Uniform Update

Please see the attached two letters from our school uniform provider. They provide details about their new website and about their plans when they are able to reopen their shop.

Reception New Starters

As we begin to prepare for our new starters into Reception and some new children into other year groups in September (house and school moves which have been delayed by

Covid 19), we are having to think differently about how to welcome these families to school. We would usually hold welcome meetings and taster days, but these may not be able to take place. We have already sent out welcome packs and now I would like to ask for any memories your child has of their first day at school, their buddy or even their first year. Please ask your child to write this memory down or record it and send it to school via Seesaw. I am hoping to then make a video of school so that new starters can begin to find their way around 'virtually' and it would be great to have some anecdotes on there too to make it even more special. It would also be good to have some parent memories or quotes too to pass on the word about our lovely school! You can message me on Seesaw with these or email the admin team at school.

VE Day Celebrations

Friday sees the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe. As we obviously can't mark this at school, there are resources at the website below which might provide ideas about how you could mark the day at home instead:

<https://www.artventurers.co.uk/the-big-neighbourhood-v-e-day-family-festival/>

There are also ideas on:

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/remembrance-events/ve-day-75>

There is also a virtual tea party organised by Radio York from 10am until 12 noon. I have attached a Picture News resource to this newsletter too, giving lots of ideas for discussion about the big question: 'What is VE Day?'

If you live in Naburn, here is what the village is suggesting:



Please send in photos of what you do and I will put them on the school website. I will be looking through the school log book to find the relevant pages to share with you too.

Contact with school

Please remember, the admin team and I can be contacted on the school email address and both this and the school telephone answer machine will be monitored daily on weekdays, even though school is closed. The teachers and I can also be messaged directly via Seesaw on weekdays, should you have any concerns. Don't forget to keep an eye on Twitter, Facebook and the school website for updates.

Please note that, in line with CYC advice, the staff and I will not be working on Friday 8th May as it is a Bank Holiday and St. Oswald's CE Primary will be closed.

Keep safe everyone, Brenda Christison, Headteacher

Compassion Trust Perseverance

