



Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

As we approach the Easter holidays, I just wanted to touch base and say how incredibly proud myself and the staff are of you all.

In these unprecedented times, it is extremely challenging for adults, let alone children, to gain perspective and understanding of what is happening in the world around us. It is difficult to explain and some children will have many questions that are really challenging to answer. The next few weeks will be hard and if you are affected personally in anyway please know that we are here for you - phone or email and we will respond ASAP. If you have not checked out the health and wellbeing section on the school's website, then this is really informative. I would particularly recommend the Anna Freud, self-care and coping strategies – great ideas on here which may help as emotions come to the forefront.

Ultimately, your children require your love and understanding and I would like to stress that although the Kingsmoor staff are setting work to help continue your child's education, this is certainly not our core focus. I am very conscious that Kingsmoor's ultimate aim should be to keep our core values at the fore front of our day-to-day lives: 'looking after each other' and 'trying our best in everything we do.'

This is a prime opportunity to spend '*time*' with your children, finding out what inspires them, what makes them tick. The use of photos, videos, YouTube channels, emails and blogs to update us on what you have been up to with your children have been inspiring, creative and heart-warming. Every family will work in a different way so how you use this time will be up to the people in your household. We are extremely keen to hear from you, so please do send a short email, blog or photo through if you have not done so already.

I would like to reiterate the work the teachers are setting is there to provide some continuity for your child and possibly support you in structuring the day. If you haven't accessed the blogs via the school website yet, I would highly recommend you take a look as it could be extremely helpful. I'm sure you'll agree, the staff's dedication and compassion has certainly shone through in abundance since hearing the devastating news that Kingsmoor would have to close. I cannot praise them enough.

We had our first virtual staff meeting using Zoom this week! It was lovely to see everyone and could be a way forward for children to communicate with each other if parents were happy to set up. Please take the time to remind them of how to keep safe online.

We have decided that over the Easter holidays staff will try to have a well-deserved rest and will therefore not be uploading daily activities on the blog. Instead, we have decided to provide children and parents with a list of suggested activities which could be fun. Please do keep sending us photos etc of what you are up to. Myself, and sometimes teaching staff, will be checking the homelearning email daily so do get in contact if we can help over the holidays. I can't enforce that teachers don't keep blogging or uploading Facebook posts– so you never know the odd one may appear!!

After Easter, staff will resume adding daily activities through the year group blogs. There will be three activities set a day: Maths, English and either Topic, Science, RE, Art, DT etc. Teachers will be aiming to follow units of work so please log on if you haven't managed to do so yet. It will be important for the children to access their year group's curriculum. If you have any technical challenges, do get in touch and we will aim to support in the best way we can.

Keep following the Government's advice and keep safe. We miss you all dearly but have the power of technology to keep our communication strong. We will keep our positivity going!

Take care and have a very happy Easter with your families.

Mrs Jo Warren