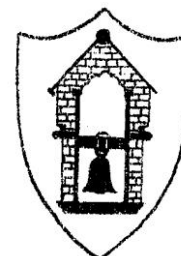


ST BARTHOLOMEW'S C of E FIRST SCHOOL

Head Teacher – Mrs G Coward
KITHILL, CREWKERNE TA18 8AS
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'Roots to Grow and Wings to Fly'

Coronavirus Closure and Plans for Learning

19th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following guidance from the DFE, Public Health and the Local Authority, St Bartholomew's C of E First School will be closed until further notice. We would like to ensure that the children's education is not significantly impacted during this unprecedented situation. Therefore, we would like to signpost you to your emails and our school website, where there will be daily activities for you to work on, with your child, should you be in a position to do so.

We completely understand that every family situation will be different and there may be a few families who will find home educating challenging. We have provided you with an additional letter signposting you to services and ideas to support your family and their mental health and well-being. We are aware that there may be a level of anxiety amongst some children and parents and we have posted a social story on our website that you might find helpful to share with your child. We have also put a link to our daily mindfulness programme. Whilst we will provide formal learning tasks, we also deeply value staying physically active and having fun with your child during this uncertain time and have provided you with some ideas. However, the expectation is that schools will continue to provide materials to support children's learning at home and we have planned for this accordingly.

Whilst we recognise that there is no replacement for your child receiving quality first teaching from their class teacher, the work provided is an interim solution to ensure that your child is continuing to access to the curriculum. We are exceptionally proud of all the children in our school and the pride they take in their learning and we will work with you to help them continue to flourish and learn during this time.

The work provided will be one piece of English, Maths and one other piece of work from the curriculum each day. We will still expect the children to read and practise their times tables and, of course, keep physically fit and have fun!

If you are unable to access the internet, we have provided a topic based project which will incorporate reading, writing, research and creative learning skills.

We advise that you check your emails and our school website at regularly. Learning will be updated each Monday morning at 9am on the school website. Go to:

- www.somerset.org.uk/site/stbartholomews
- Follow the **remote learning** link at the top of the home page
- This will take you to a folder of information for parents and folders of learning for each **year group**



- Click on the links in the documents to take you to the activity

In addition to this, our children will be bringing home:

- Fun activities to do as a family
- Passwords for Purple Mash and Times Table Rock Stars
- A pencil and exercise book
- Additional support resources and activities

We are in the process of setting up email addresses for each class to enable you to contact a member of staff with any queries regarding the activities set. A member of staff will respond within 48 hours, where possible. Please remember that staff in school, are working and we will only be able to respond, where possible.

The email addresses are:

WREN	wren.120@educ.somerset.gov.uk
ROBIN	robin.120@educ.somerset.gov.uk
STARLING	starling.120@educ.somerset.gov.uk
OWL	owl.120@educ.somerset.gov.uk
WOODPECKER	Woodpecker.120@educ.somerset.gov.uk
CHAFFINCH	Chaffinch.120@educ.somerset.gov.uk
WAGTAIL	Wagtail.120@educ.somerset.gov.uk

If your child is currently in receipt of Free School Meals, we will be in touch with you individually to make provision for this.

If your family is currently supported by a PFSA (Parent Family Support Advisor) or other service, they will be in touch by telephone to discuss future support.

With this proactive approach, we hope you feel reassured that provision will continue in a way that is manageable for our families. On behalf of all staff, I would like to reassure that you are all in our thoughts and prayers at this challenging time. I would like to thank all our families who are carrying out key roles to care for and support our country, working together for everyone. I am incredibly grateful and proud of our staff who, are among those working to ensure that frontline workers are able to carry out their vital work to keep us all safe.

Yours sincerely,

G J Coward

Mrs G Coward
Headteacher