

The Value of the Month is Happiness



Newberries Primary School

Play Together, Learn Together, Achieve Together, Grow Together

Website: www.newberries.hertsch.uk

Email: admin@newberries.hertsch.uk

Newsberries

01.05.2020

Headline News - Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon

Teachers really enjoyed making calls to the children this week! We feel this is a meaningful way of staying in touch with pupils and their families and will be calling you again before half term. Please do not worry if your child was not that willing to speak to them! It is a new experience for all of us. We hope your child found this valuable.



Teachers were overwhelmed by the positive feedback they received from parents. This was a welcome boost to staff, we are all working our hardest to do the best we can for the children in these circumstances.

We are aware that there are many ways in today's world of keeping in touch but we are keen to speak to the children in person where possible. Although we realise the potential of technology we are aiming to strike a balance so that we are not adding too much to screen time during these long days at home. We are keen to continue our communication in a range of ways.

The school continues to open daily for the children of key workers who need to be at school. Thank you to all the staff for planning the activities for these children that combine tasks from the home learning packs and other activities, including lots of outdoor opportunities. This week the children enjoyed a Harry Potter themed day and have baked gingerbread men!

We also need to send out a huge thank you to Mrs Skeggs, our Kitchen Manager, for coming into school everyday (including the Easter holidays) to provide the children in school with a hot meal. She has also carried out some baking sessions with the children which we know they have really enjoyed.

We hope you have found the changes that staff have made to the Home Learning packs useful. We are working hard to get the learning activities to the place that we had envisaged and the resources easy for parents to access. We will continue to

review and develop our Home Learning support in the hope of keeping things fresh. Thank you to Mr Hill for uploading the Home Learning packs each week. Although Mr Hill has supported our ICT systems for some years, he has now become almost full time tech support!

We have added back in the 'Emails Home' section of Newsberries as we are aware that some parents are missing our communications. A leaflet containing health advice for parents was sent at the beginning of the week. We have re-attached this to Newsberries today for your convenience.

Once again, great use has been made of the Home Learning email account. We have enjoyed seeing work the children are proud of and have been able to answer or redirect parents to the information that will help with the queries they may have. Constructive feedback has been of great use to us and where it has been possible, we have made the necessary tweaks.

We hope you are all staying well!

Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon (Headteachers)

Home Learning Update

Thank you for the positive feedback regarding the new organisation of learning packs. We are glad these are working better for you. We will continue to upload our weekly packs onto the School Closure section of the website each Friday afternoon. The overview document will continue to give daily activities for English, Maths and one other curriculum subject.

We know that parents have found links to the Oak National Academy useful. This is an online resource launched last week by the DfE and is available for schools to use to provide online lessons for the pupils. Some teachers are also using BBC Bitesize. We will be using these resources as much as possible to link children and parents to online clips that may help explain activities further.

Please be advised that next week's Home Learning Pack will not include work for Friday due to the Bank Holiday. Each year group's pack does have an activity linked to VE Day.

Miss Scantlebury, our Computing Subject Leader, would like to thank the children who have been submitting their work on Purple Mash. The teachers have begun to leave responses and comments on activities pupils have completed. Please make sure you check back on the work that the children have submitted to view the feedback left.

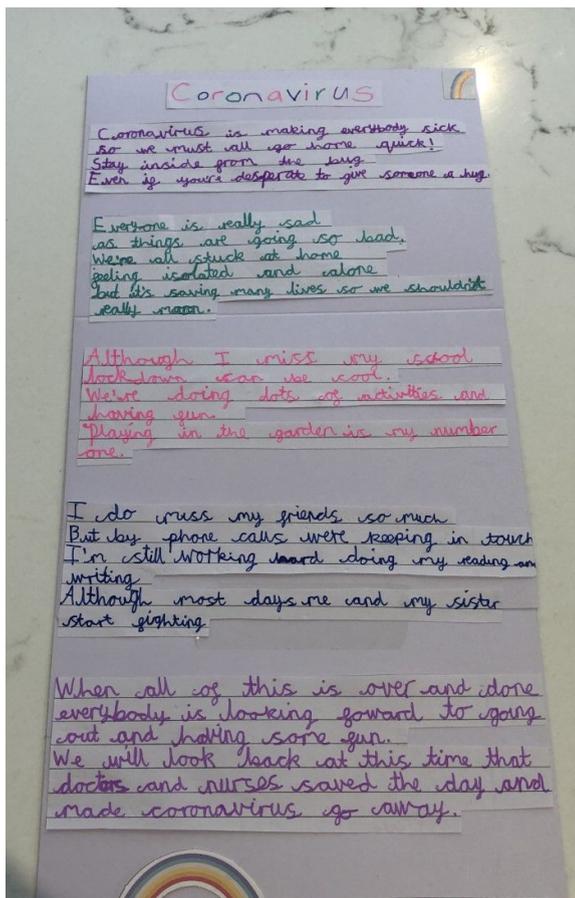
Thank you to those parents who have emailed the Home Learning email account with work your children are proud of. Please feel free to email in any additional activities your children have completed, we would love to see the kind of things the children are enjoying. This email is monitored regularly so that your queries can be dealt with as quickly as possible. Please could you include your child's name and class in the email. The account is monitored by a team of people who may not know your family yet. It just helps us ensure that your email is directed to the appropriate teacher.

We have set up a number of subscriptions to online learning resources. If your child is not accessing these because you do not have login details, please contact us on the Home Learning email account so we can get the correct permissions in place from you to set these up.

homelearning@newberries.hert.sch.uk

Work That Made Us Proud!

Gracie - Y2



Leo - Y5



Well-Being

Happiness is our Value for May!

Ask your child to think about their own box of ultimate happiness. Are there people in that box for whom they could do something special to show them how much they matter?



Sometimes, we can become so preoccupied with wanting things that we haven't got that we fail to see those things that are most special and important in life. Sometimes, we feel jealous because other people have possessions that we do not have. However, although these things are lovely to have, they will not bring anyone ultimate happiness. The things that bring the most happiness to our lives usually cost little or no money. They are often things that involve special people - such as family, friends and people who care for us - or memories.

Try out some of these ideas:

- **Keeping a gratitude journal.** 'Every day – even if it's been a rubbish day – your child can write down 10 things that they're grateful for but usually take for granted. This stops them focusing on the negative,' Andy says.
- **Laughing.** It sounds obvious, but it releases feel-good hormones and reduces stress hormones. Sit down together and watch a funny DVD or look up silly videos on YouTube. Look at the link below- on Happiness Yoga: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Pa-zw6Bo70>
- **Performing random acts of kindness,** such as making someone a cup of tea (unprompted), helping with the washing-up or reading their younger sibling a story.
- **Writing a letter to themselves.** Get them to imagine they're 30 years old and writing to their childhood self. What advice would they give themselves?
- **Encouraging a growth mindset.** Praise children for hard work and perseverance rather than results, rewarding the effort rather than the outcome.
- **Exercising.** There's a strong link between physical activity and mental wellbeing, so walking or cycling to school, playing football in the garden after school or taking up dance or tennis lessons could boost your child's emotional health.
- **Celebrating their strengths.** Focus on praising the things they're good at and doing more of them.
- **Reading together.** You can't underestimate the impact of sitting on your child's bed and reading them a bedtime story – even if they're perfectly capable of reading by themselves.
- **Being more sociable.** Instead of walking around with your heads down, smile at everyone within 10 feet and make eye contact and say "hello" to everyone within five feet.
- **Hugging.** Most hugs only last 2.1 seconds, but to get the maximum love-surge, they need to last seven seconds or longer, so introducing the seven-second hug is a really easy way of making your child feel special.

Mrs Culverhouse (PSHE Subject Leader)

PE - Challenge of the Week

We have recently been working with our partnership schools with the aim of introducing a personal challenge for the children (and everyone at home) to take part in. The challenges will be set every week with the details included in Newsberries. This week we are starting with:

How many socks can you throw in a bucket in 60 seconds?

What you need:

• 5 x pairs of socks • 1 x bucket, box or hoop • 1 x marker • 1 x timer

- Place a bucket on the ground.
- Measure 5 strides from the bucket and place the marker on the ground.
- Stand next to the marker and throw a pair of socks under arm in to the bucket.
- Once you have thrown all the pairs of socks, run and collect the socks and start again.
- How many socks can you throw into the bucket in 60 seconds?

Always have adult supervision.

Make sure the surface is flat.

Make sure there are no obstructions.

Good Luck!

Mr Mellor (PE Subject Leader)

Emails Home

Last Week

All	Home Learning Email Account
Y5	Consortium Test Arrangements

This week

All	Health Advice for Parents During Coronavirus
KW	Email to Key Worker Children attending school

Letter to the Children

Please let your child read this or read it to them! Thank you!

Dear Children,

We hoped you all enjoyed speaking to your teacher's this week. We were a little bit jealous that they got to talk to so many of you. We are glad there are some children still in school, but it feels strange without all of you. We have been thinking of ways we can keep in touch with you and have a lot of ideas. We hear that you are managing to do this with your friends too and know that many of you have been calling and meeting up virtually. We think it's lovely that you are keeping in touch with one another, just remember to stay safe and always tell an adult if you are worried about something.

We hope you are enjoying your learning packs and are doing what you can when you can. We know it is very different for everyone at the moment and that your parents are doing their work at home as well as helping you with yours. It is unusual for everyone but just do your best.

Next week is the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. This was a very important day for our country. Although we are not in school to have an Enrichment Day we hope you will enjoy the work that your teacher has set you to commemorate this.

Stay safe everyone and look after each other in your home. We really miss you all and are so looking forward to seeing you all again, so that you can fill the school with lots of noise, laughter and happiness!

Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon

XX