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**Federation Headteacher Miss J Concannon**  
<http://www.knaphillfederationofschools.org.uk/>

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am writing to update you following the government announcement yesterday. As you will have heard, all schools in England will now be closed to the majority of children from the end of the school day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Most of the content of this letter applies to the majority of our children, those who will not be in school. However, we are still awaiting clarification on who the Government are defining as “key workers” and “vulnerable”. Once we have this information we will be able to plan how we are going to make provision for them.

### **Our Philosophy for Home Learning**

Our Home Learning philosophy is for children to be able to build on what they have already learned and practise the skills they have acquired at school. We have endeavoured to make sure Home Learning is as easy to access as possible and that we are able to support all families across the KFOS community. This will include children with or without internet access and those with limited or shared internet access within a household.

When planning for Home Learning we understand that the children will learn differently to how they would at school, so the resources provided are to be used as a support for them and you. The aim of these resources is for the children to be able to access them as independently as possible, however there may be times when a little bit of extra support or explanation may be needed by an adult or older sibling.

### **Home Learning and Well-being**

As a Federation we are very aware that these are potentially very worrying times for our children and their families. We also appreciate that as the situation develops or changes, children may become more worried or anxious and we would not like for our suggestions for Home Learning to contribute to this. When children become worried they can often find it difficult to concentrate and focus and we would like to reassure you that if this happens, spending time together, doing things as a family that you all love and looking after yourselves will be just as important and beneficial. Exercise, keeping active and healthy will also help the children’s mental health and well-being. To support this, we will include some links on our websites and ideas of activities that can be done either on their own or together as a family.

Whilst the children continue with their Home Learning it is a fantastic opportunity to develop life-long learning skills, for example, cooking, gardening or helping with household chores, which will help them develop resilience and learn how to respond to adversity. Children will remember this time for many years to come and as a Federation we would like to support our community in providing a balance of Home Learning activities and suggestions to make this time as positive as it can be.

Thinking about learning from home and how to structure the day may be something you might like to consider. One idea could be to set a timetable with your child to help them understand what to expect and to help you manage your days, especially if you are also working from home.

## How to access Home Learning

For Reception, Home Learning will be shared via Tapestry. There will also be a range of activities on the Reception Home Learning tab on the Knaphill Lower School Website.

For both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, the teachers will prepare a weekly Maths, English and Topic PowerPoint. These will include daily activities with explanations that the children can complete (as independently as possible). Teachers are continuing to provide different levels of challenge through 'Meet it, Beat it and Smash it' which will be found on the slides.

For Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March we would like the children to complete some of the activities below. These can also be found in the Home Learning section in each Year Group. These are suggestions and activities that the children can continue to do on top off the Home Learning that has been set.

### **KS1 and KS2 – Suggested activities to complete on Monday 23/03/2020**

- *Reading - this could be your reading book (which you can reread), your own books, newspapers, comics, recipes, or anything you have in the house!*
- *Times table practice - Using either Mathletics, Times Table Rocks Stars or any fun games you can play!*
- *Activities on Purple Mash*
- *Keep a diary of your day - this could be in pictures or writing. You could do this in a fun and creative way such as a comic or a story book*
- *Spelling Practice – Year 1 and 2 Common Exception Words, Year 3/4 Spellings and Year 5/6 Spellings (Please find these saved on each Year Group's page)*
- *Create a PowerPoint/poster linked to your Knowledge Organiser*
- *Create a quiz about facts on your Knowledge Organiser and any further information you may have researched*
- *Write a story about something linked to your Knowledge Organiser*
- *Create a piece of artwork linked to your Knowledge Organiser*

The weekly PowerPoints for next week will be uploaded by **Tuesday 24/03/2020**. Following that, during term time, the weekly PowerPoints will be uploaded ready to access by 9.00 am on a Monday morning for the rest of that week. These PowerPoints will be found on the Year Group page on each website under Home Learning.

As well as the regular uploading of Home Learning activities provided by the teachers, we will include some useful websites that could be used. The children in KS1 and KS2 will also have their online logins for websites such as Bug Club and Mathletics.

## Communication

As a Federation we will continue to follow guidance and if any changes need to be made to Home Learning we will communicate this to you as soon as possible. Please look regularly on the website Year Group pages as we may upload additional resources and ideas to support you at home. If you have any enquiries regarding any of the online logins or are having trouble accessing the Home Learning please email [office2@knaphill.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office2@knaphill.surrey.sch.uk).

Thank you so much for your continued support. Please be assured that we will do everything we can during this time to support you and your children in securing their ongoing education and well-being. We also fully appreciate how challenging this time may be for our community as many of you might be poorly, caring for sick relatives or concerned about financial implications. Our thoughts are with you all and we will keep you updated regularly.

Kind regards,  
Miss J. Concannon  
Federation Headetacher