

Bringing out the Best in Everyone.

'Encourage one another and build each other up.' Thessalonians 5:11

Date: 1st May 2020

#### Dear Parents

As we come to the end of our fourth week of school closures, I think it is important to all celebrate the fantastic job you are doing. The children are all working incredibly hard, completing their online learning, and it has been lovely to see so many joining in with other activities provided by Digital Wizards, AmaSing and many more. Well done to you all.

The longer the lockdown goes on the greater impact it has on our social and emotional wellbeing. The messages the children are sharing highlight how much they are missing each other and all the staff. We too are missing you all and very much looking forward to seeing you all again, hopefully soon!

Thank you for the positive comments we have received this week on the home learning. We too are working in different ways, including using different types of technology, and really appreciate your feedback. We have all been sharing small video clips which the children seem to really enjoy. We will keep them coming! The strength and hope we are all sharing will help us to come through this together and stronger than ever.

We do not yet have any dates for re-opening. I will update you when we receive any updates from the Department of Education.



This week, Oak National Academy launched their first collective worship. The Archbishop of Canterbury led the worship and the theme was HOPE. Thank you to those who joined me. The most important message shared was that we are all helping our country to fight the coronavirus. If we all have HOPE, together we can get through this and be back together again soon. This week's worship can be found on the Oak National Academy website: https://www.thenational.academy/assembly

The Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson, addressed all children in England and thanked them for being brave and for staying at home. He acknowledged the challenges of not being in school and how children are

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all missing their friends. He thanked you all for being patient and for staying at home.



# This Weeks Wellbeing Task:

Find a song that makes you feel really good. Sing and do a crazy dance!

Hi Everyone

I hope you have all had a good week!
I came across this the other day and thought how true these words were.
Have a wonderful weekend and do some crazy dancing!

Love from Mrs Huxtable

# **FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

We understand that this current crisis is having a significant impact on all families-emotionally and financially.

Universal Free School Meals provide school lunches for all children in reception through to the end of Year 2. You do not need to apply for this.

Your child may be entitled to an income based free school meal if you get any of the following:

(This also applies to children currently accessing the universal free school meal offer)

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Look how much you've already managed to adapt to look how resilient you've already been. There's no "right" way to respond to this because it's never, ever happened before. Give yourself some credit. There's no one in the whole world who has this figured out yet. So it's absolutely okay if you don't either of

mellow doodles 1

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Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Please follow the link to complete a short online form to check if you are eligible. ALL children from Nursery to Year 6 can apply. If you meet the criteria, your child will be entitled to a free school dinner and school receives a Pupil Premium Grant. The Pupil Premium Grant is £1345 per eligible pupil, per year, to provide additional support and enrichment activities in school.

If your child is entitled to income based Free School Meals (NOT Universal Free School Meals), we can provide school packed lunches daily during these closures. Please inform us if you meet the criteria and we can discuss collecting meals from school.

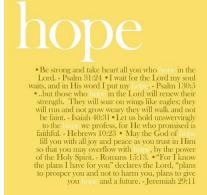
https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/education-andlearning/school-meals.aspx we are here to help

## Tilston Community Support

We are here to help and support you. Tilston Parish Council are providing food parcels for families needing a little extra help

and support. I am also working very closely with the Whitchurch Foodbank and can issue vouchers to support families in need.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you need any help, advice or support during these very challenging times. All conversations and information shared will be treated confidentially.



Lord, our God. Come and be with all of us together in these difficult times, give us patience, enable us to stay positive, and give us courage to keep going under pressure.

And may the choices we make today reflect our hopes, not our fears. Amen

### **Bank Holiday-VE Day Celebrations**

There will be no online learning activities set next Friday 8th May, as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE Day. Teachers will be planning a special VE Day on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May and activities will be provided. We will be back online from Monday 11th May.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Best wishes

Kelsey Mort, Headteacher

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