



Rothersthorpe CE Primary School
Pride, Ability, Positivity
Rothersthorpe Reporting 30th March 2020



Phone: 01604 830995

Email: head@rothersthorpe.northants-ecl.gov.uk

School website: www.rothersthorpeprimary.net

Dear Parents,

This is definitely a very different newsletter to the usual! How was your first week—balancing childcare, home learning, working and the usual household chores? Challenging, fun, difficult, enjoyable, tiring, loving—I'm sure it was every emotion possible. This is an unprecedented time in our living history and we are all in this together, so please let us know if you need anything. We are all on-hand for support and advice.

I do have some extremely sad news to share with you—Liz Youngman from our Diocese, whom we have received many training and support sessions from at school, lost her son, aged 26, this week due to complications from COVID-19. We hold her family in our thoughts and prayers. This brings the dangerous effects of the Coronavirus closer to home, so please, please follow the Government guidelines and 'keep your children at home' if at all possible.

We were very busy last week prioritising support for key workers children, the vulnerable and those most in need across both schools. We had safeguarding meetings and delivered food parcels, which kept us busy. I am still supporting Flore School which continues to be open for some critical key workers children this week. I will continue to do my very best to support Rothersthorpe parents and children, so please email me if you need help or advice with anything from finance, special educational needs, well-being, behaviour, home learning etc. (My support at Flore finishes at the end of this week). Thank you for all the lovely emails teachers are receiving from parents.

If you follow the school on Facebook, or you are on the Class 1 Tapestry site, you will have seen the many posts shared, which often includes lovely activities that your children and families have been doing this week. Thank you all for sharing—it really cheers everyone up to see the children's smiley faces. Teachers wanted to expand the sharing and keep the children's interest so have set-up the ClassDojo platform for Y1-Y6. I look forward to seeing how this develops, as well as Zoom with Class 4. We are all rising to the challenges of remote learning together!

School won't be open over Easter. However if you are a critical key worker and need emergency childcare please email me and I will do my best to find childcare provision for you. I will be checking my emails daily. After Easter—At the moment we do not know when school will return –it very much depends on how the virus is managed or not. As soon as we know, we will contact you immediately.

If you know a family who are self-isolating or who are poorly, please let us know so we can provide help via email, a telephone call, picking up shopping for them etc. We want to help.

An extra huge thank you to those parents in our school community who are critical key workers, especially in the NHS and Police. We appreciate that you are also doing everything possible to keep your children safe at home. We are here for you and your families, as you are here for us.

Please keep safe. Kind regards, Mrs Fountain





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Class 3 and Class 4 Residentials

At the moment we are liaising with the centres to try and change the dates. However, as we have no idea how long the Coronavirus restrictions will be in place, it is proving difficult to make decisions. Also the available dates are very limited.

Class 3 residential—we are hoping to re-schedule. Rock UK are working through bookings in date order and will contact us when they reach our booking. It will depend on what dates they have available.

Class 4 residential—we are hoping to re-schedule for as late in the summer as possible, but are waiting on the centre to confirm any spare dates. If none are available, we may have to cancel. We will contact parents as soon as we know, to discuss refunding the payments already made.

Home Learning

Thank you to all our teachers for providing a range of home learning activities at short notice for children and parents. To try and keep your children engaged teachers have also now set up the ClassDojo platform for Y1-Y6, class 1 have Tapestry and class 4 also have Zoom for meetings.

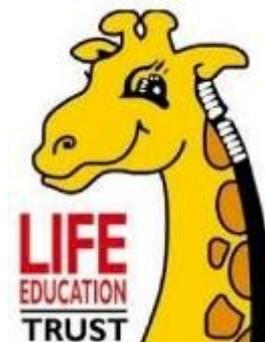
Learning at home is not the same as 'teaching and learning in school'. Teaching is very much a social interaction. **Teachers have set home learning that your child should already be able to do.** Activities should consolidate learning, enable practice and rehearsal so that learning and concepts are transferred to children's long-term memory. The more-able children should apply their learning in a range of creative ways such as creating their own projects, buildings, art work, DT, presentations, performances etc to ensure Mastery.

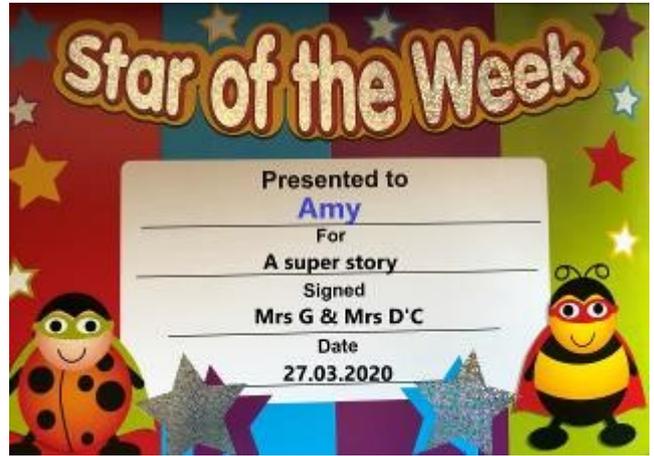
Once children are back to school, teachers will focus on any gaps in learning—everyone will be in the same boat. If home learning is proving to be 'a battle', focus on the key skills of reading, phonics, spelling, times tables and number facts with lots of fun activities, being outside and spending time as a family. We are only at the start of our 'isolation journey' and we must all change and adapt as we go along together. Please keep in touch with teachers.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Support during School Closures

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/childrens-mental-health/depression-anxiety-mental-health/>
- www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/here-for-parents
Some great resources on this site: Staying safe online; looking after yourself; answering children's questions; Harold's daily diary—supporting children's mental health

If you need any home learning support or advice, your teachers are there for you. Please email them; they want to help.





6 mins · 📺

Fancy a few moments of peace and quiet? At 11am every day for a month, author David Walliams has promised to read aloud from his books to keep your little ones busy! 📖



[THISMORNINGTV.PAGE.LINK](#)

In lockdown: That's storytime taken care of!
In lockdown: That's storytime taken care of!...



#Dress4NHS

Friday 3rd April 2020

On Friday we are asking our school community to wear blue in support of our critical key workers at the NHS.



If you are able to be involved, wear something blue on Friday and post a picture of you and/or your child/ren on Facebook or send your photo to: head@rothersthorpe.northants-ecl.gov.uk

Let's show how our school community supports the NHS.



E-Safety Reminder

As we are all working much more remotely, including our children, I would like to remind everyone about 'keeping safe online'.

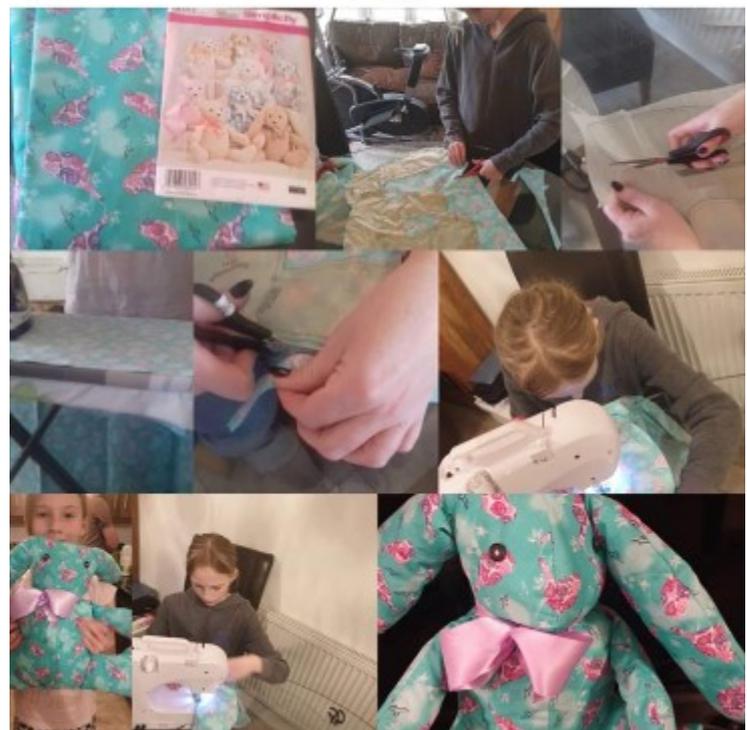
The DfE will be sending out an amendment to our statutory duties shortly. Once received I will update our school E-Safety Policy and parent/pupil agreements. In the meantime:

- Pupils must ask an adult before they use the internet, online games or social media
- Class 4—Using Zoom. Ask your parent first; do not take screen shots; do not record conversations; only say and post kind and helpful things; please respect everyone
- Teachers will only reply to parent emails—not pupil emails
- Interact with others in a polite, kind, sensible and respect manner. Report any upsetting behaviour to an adult
- Please report anything you feel is inappropriate to myself and/or CEOP

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

A few amazing examples of some fun learning and projects posted by parents. Let us know what you are doing in lockdown!

Spent the afternoon with my Lollypop on our Corona project - meet B the Bunny. 🐰



Justine Kingston

DAY 8 IN THE DOME: Joe wicks to start the day off followed by newsround and horrible histories and smoothie making. Maths games, reading a book together and then a science experiment about wasting water! Finishing off the school day with some just dancing videos! 🙌