



MUGGINTON Cof E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mugginton

Ashbourne

Derbyshire DE6 4PL

Telephone : 01335 360261

www.muggintonschool.co.uk

13<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents,

Happy Easter to you all. I hope you have managed to enjoy the sunshine over the weekend and today. Most importantly, I hope you all remain healthy and happy.

It has been lovely corresponding with you all and with your lovely children over the last three weeks or so. I can say with complete sincerity that I think you are doing a magnificent job - every child I have seen or spoken to has been happy, confident and keen to tell me about the adventures you have been having. You are doing something very very right!

### **Home Learning Plans from Monday 20th April**

It is likely we will not be back at school for the beginning of the summer term. I have received no additional information from the county council or the DfE, but I believe at least a fortnight's planning will be required to help you work with your child from home. However, I am optimistic that we will be able to re-open school for the final half-term. Fingers crossed.

I have tried to send a consistent message to you since the beginning of the epidemic. Whilst academic progress is important, we are in a unique, short-term situation under a set of pressures different to those we usually experience. As a result, it is easy to be worried you 'are not doing enough' home learning or that you are doing less than other families are doing.

If you feel this way, I invite you to imagine fast-forwarding to your child being 18 years old (!). Do you believe that what you do or do not do over this month or so will affect your child's academic outcomes at the age of 18? I do not think it will have any effect because it is too short a period of time. Therefore, a focus on the core of primary curricula: reading, vocabulary development, basic arithmetical understanding alongside child-led topic learning/research and enjoyment of the outdoors is what I recommend strongly to you all.

With this in mind, I suggest identifying 3 core goals to achieve on each (home) school day, based upon the work we set on our blog and maybe yours and your children's interests. For example, Hal has the following three for today, which I write down on our chalkboard.

- 1) read 15 pages of The Magic Faraway Tree
- 2) Write a letter to his best friend and post it (if I can find a stamp)
- 3) create a errr 'hanging mobile' using egg boxes, paint and wool (art/D&T is not my strong point!).

That's it. In between attempting these three things, we go for a walk with Timmy, play football, garden and have emotionally charged online MarioKart races with 'Auntie Katie'. Tomorrow will have maths as a theme and perhaps something plant-based for science.

I find 3 manageable goals works well. It gives Hal a structure of sorts, achievable goals and means I do not beat myself up too much for my limitations as a parent. If you are concerned about how best to home school, I invite you to try something along these lines.

### **Key Points**

1) There is a lot on the blog. This is because there is no one way to make home learning a success and, in my opinion, nothing can replicate a carefully planned school curriculum delivered by my amazing staff.

**Take what you want from the blog, ignore what you do not want to do.**

2) English and Maths tasks will be posted daily by 9.30am. The English tasks will all relate to the three books (Enchanted Wood; The Witches; Boy at the Back of the Class) so please try to have a copy ready. Let me know if you are struggling and I will try to pop one through your letterbox by next Monday.

3) There will be science and humanities/arts topics posted alongside the Japanese. I recommend choosing one activity per week. More if your child is keen!

4) The daily maths we set aims to secure existing learning rather than introducing new topics. Your child should be familiar with the maths we share. The large majority of the work will be differentiated so do not worry if your child cannot complete every question.

5) Please try to share with me what you do with your children, ideally using their email addresses. This allows us to encourage, praise and give feedback to the children for their work.

6) Ask if you need anything.

I hope you find this useful. Please ask if you need more reading books or resources from school. Remember, the blog is at [mightymugginton.wordpress.com](http://mightymugginton.wordpress.com)

Thanks

Joseph Green

Headteacher, Mugginton CE Primary School

01335 360261