



Overstone Combined School

Newsletter 24th April 2020

As we continue through these difficult times we hope that everyone is well and that nobody has been personally affected by illness. Please remember that school are here for any support which you need, and that there is always somebody by the telephone during school hours, even if it is just for an adult to talk to while in the midst of home schooling!

As we continue providing resources for home learning we are providing activities for all children. Thank you to all those who responded to our survey regarding this the vast majority were overwhelmingly positive with some wonderful comments which has really helped our staff in reassuring them with what they are doing.

As you know we have been trialling the use of see saw and e-schools to set work for the children. The results from the parent and staff questionnaires showed an even split between both platforms. It also showed that parents and teachers are using both in different ways. E-schools is providing more formal instructions while seesaw allows for more feedback from teachers and interaction. We have therefore decided to keep both platforms working. If you are not able to access one then the other is an alternative. Do not feel that it is essential to complete everything.

Remember, we are setting a lot of work so that the children do not run out- if you cannot do it all please do not worry. The main priority at the moment is that the children are safe and happy. When they return to school we will provide all the support they need academically.

Competition – Name A Room

You may have noticed before school closed that we have had some building work completed on the rooms by the main entrance. New windows have put in and they have now been decorated and are looking brilliant.

We would now like to give these two rooms new names so are running a competition for children to come up with ideas. Please send in your ideas by 8th May to your class teachers and staff will vote for the best from the entries.

Room 1: The first door on your right as you enter the building (used for cooking and the after school club)

Room 2: The room between the cooking room and the calm room which currently has the music equipment.

Whole School Projects

As a school we would like to introduce whole school projects to help us to feel as one even while we are all separate. These will be an opportunity for the school to work together where possible and in a small way help the community. If you have any ideas for these projects then please let us know.

This week's project (which has no completion date as it is entirely optional) is about showing pride in our local area as in our school vision which emphasises our place "at the heart of our village community". Can you find a way to show pride in Wing? You could colour in one of the "I love my home in Wing" pages, design one for yourself, or find a way to help the local community. It could be anything at all.

We look forward to hearing about what you have done.



Mental Health and Wellbeing

As time goes on mental health and wellbeing become an increasing concern for all of us. A range of advice has been generated to support both children and adults. Some of these are included below and a PDF file with tips is also attached.

Mentally Healthy Schools (Anna Freud Centre)

The Anna Freud Centre has published a range of resources to help support the mental health of children, young people, school staff and parents.

Coronavirus: Resources for mental health and wellbeing
Toolkit 1

- a booklet to support schools
- videos to provide practical guidance and tips to schools, parents and carers about coronavirus (COVID-19) and mental health
- activities to ease anxiety that can be done at school or at home and other helpful advice, helplines and resources for adults and children.

<https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/resources/coronavirus-resources-for-mental-health-and-wellbeing-toolkit-1/>

NSPCC

The NSPCC has created a number of resources to support parents and carers during this difficult time. Topics include:

- Talking to a child worried about coronavirus
- Parents working from home
- Children staying home alone
- Lockdown and separated parents
- How to cope with tantrums and other difficult behaviour

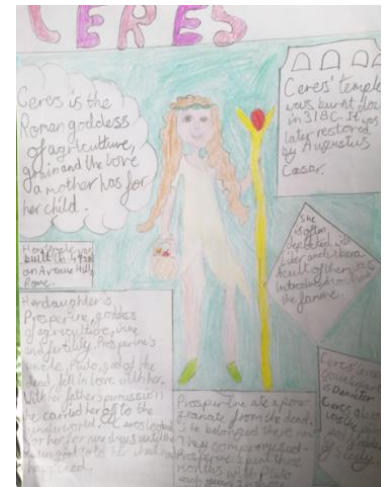
The advice can be found on the NSPCC website here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/coronavirus-advice-support-children-families-parents/>

Reminders

- Please continue to use see saw or e-schools for looking at work set by your children's class teachers
- If you have any queries please email or ring the office during school hours (admin@overstone-wing.org)
- If you are in need of childcare due to being a key worker please let us know as early as possible so that we can plan our staffing



We have had an overwhelming number of photos sent in of all of your wonderful home learning so have not been able to include them all! Just look at what you have been doing!



We painted some stones. Here is one of mine. I will hide it on our walk.

