



Friday 1st May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope that this letter finds everyone well, and that even though most staff and children are learning from home, you still feel a sense of belonging to our lovely schools. The staff are all missing the children greatly, and our families are doing an amazing job of adjusting to this new way of living.

We know that children are all unique and learn in different ways, some of our children are feeling worried and are missing their friends and their school, whilst others are having a wonderful time spending time outdoors, playing, and learning at their own pace. Some children want to engage with all the activities we are sending home, whilst others do not want to engage at all. We are proud of each and every one of them for the way they are coping. If your child does not want to do school work some days, then please don't feel under pressure to make them. Children learn best when they are happy and healthy, and our main priority is that they are safe and well. If you are worried about your child's work, please message their teacher on Class Dojo, and they will try their best to help.

Week 5 and 6 activities

The planned activities for the next two weeks will be on our websites from the end of the day today

Barton: <http://www.barton.dalesmat.org/home-learning/weekly-learning-packs/>

Ravensworth: <http://www.ravensworth.dalesmat.org/home-learning/weekly-learning-packs/>

Following requests from some parents we have put a more structured plan in place with daily activities. **You do not need to follow this plan to the letter**, these are suggested activities for each day. If you'd like to try this more structured approach you can do. Each week has four English and four maths lessons, with a catch up day planned in. Class teachers will explain the lessons to the children in their video on Class Dojo on Monday morning. We know that not all children have access to technology, especially when there are older siblings in the house who need it, so we have made sure that there are some paper based challenges as well that do not require on-line access.

Online assembly

As church schools we are required to hold a daily act of collective worship. This is our special time to come together as a school and think about things that are going on in the world.

Clearly we are not able to do this at the moment, however, this week, the Oak Academy held the first National online assembly and this was led by Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury. The assembly can be found here:

W: www.barton.dalesmat.org E: admin@barton.dalesmat.org T: 01325 377246
Barton Church of England Primary School | Silver Street | Barton | Richmond | North Yorkshire | DL10 6LJ

W: www.ravensworth.dalesmat.org E: admin@ravensworth.dalesmat.org T: 01325 718375
Ravensworth CE Primary School | Ravensworth | Richmond | North Yorkshire | DL11 7ET

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OgdhOstV6il> The theme was 'Hope' and ended with a prayer using the words of Nelson Mandela: 'May your choices reflect your hopes, not your fears'.

Oak academy will be holding an online assembly every week at 10am.

School Closure

Quite a number of parents have contacted us this week to ask about when schools will be reopening. At present we really know no more than anyone else. The clear Government advice is still that during this difficult time you should keep your children at home rather than send them to school. Key workers' children should not attend school if there are other options available. We are offering only essential childcare provision for those families who have no other options. If you have children who can be left at home safely, because there is adequate care, this is what should happen. This is so that we can deploy the minimum number of staff and therefore expose the minimum number of children, staff and their families to this risk.

Online safety

Please do remember to help your child/ren stay safe online and ensure that you have appropriate parental controls in place. Have a look at these useful links:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents>

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

If you need any further advice with online safety, please do get in touch.

Our administrators are all working at home, please do contact them if you need anything, or if you need to get in touch with myself or a member of staff. We will help in any way we can.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend. Stay well, and stay safe.

Kindest regards,

Mrs H Dudman
Headteacher