



Kentish Town CE Primary School Newsletter

Love — Equality — Compassion
Excellent Teaching, Excellent Effort, Excellent Progress:
Every Child, Every Lesson, Every Day

www.kentishtown.camden.sch.uk

Issue 12 : 27th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Life at School

It has been very strange being in school this week without seeing you all. It has also been very quiet with small numbers of children in school. As you know, we have provided a childcare offer for children with Special Educational Needs (an EHCP) or those whose parents or carers are critical workers. **The advice from government remains the same: wherever possible, all children should be cared for in their home in order to limit the spread of the virus.**

Easter Opening

The government have asked that schools support the families of critical workers by offering to open over the Easter holiday period. If you are a critical worker and would be interested in taking up this option, could you please either call the school office or email admin@kentishtown.camden.sch.uk so I can make the arrangements needed.

PE with Joe

This week we have enjoyed starting our days with PE with Joe (Wicks, not Joe Mahon!) The short sessions at 9am each day are fun and do not require lots of space. If you haven't found him on YouTube then I would recommend that you take a look. We have really laughed and stretched and blown away the cobwebs each morning in school. Worth a look!

Food Parcels

If your child/ren are entitled to free school meals, Caterlink (our lunch provider) have delivered food items to help. The bags (put together by a crack team of staff!) include: tins of soup, baked beans, corn, long life milk and bread. Please call the office if you can collect - you won't need to enter the building. **There is one bag per child. Pam will text you if you are entitled.**

Please take a moment to read my letter overleaf - these are extraordinary times and you are doing a great job.

See you all "on the other side" when we can all be together again in our school hall for a welcome back tea!

Best wishes,

James Humphries - Headteacher



27th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your children are managing to cope as well as you can during these very uncertain times. I also hope that you are staying healthy and enjoying spending much quality time with each other, despite the unanticipated nature of the position that you now find yourselves in.

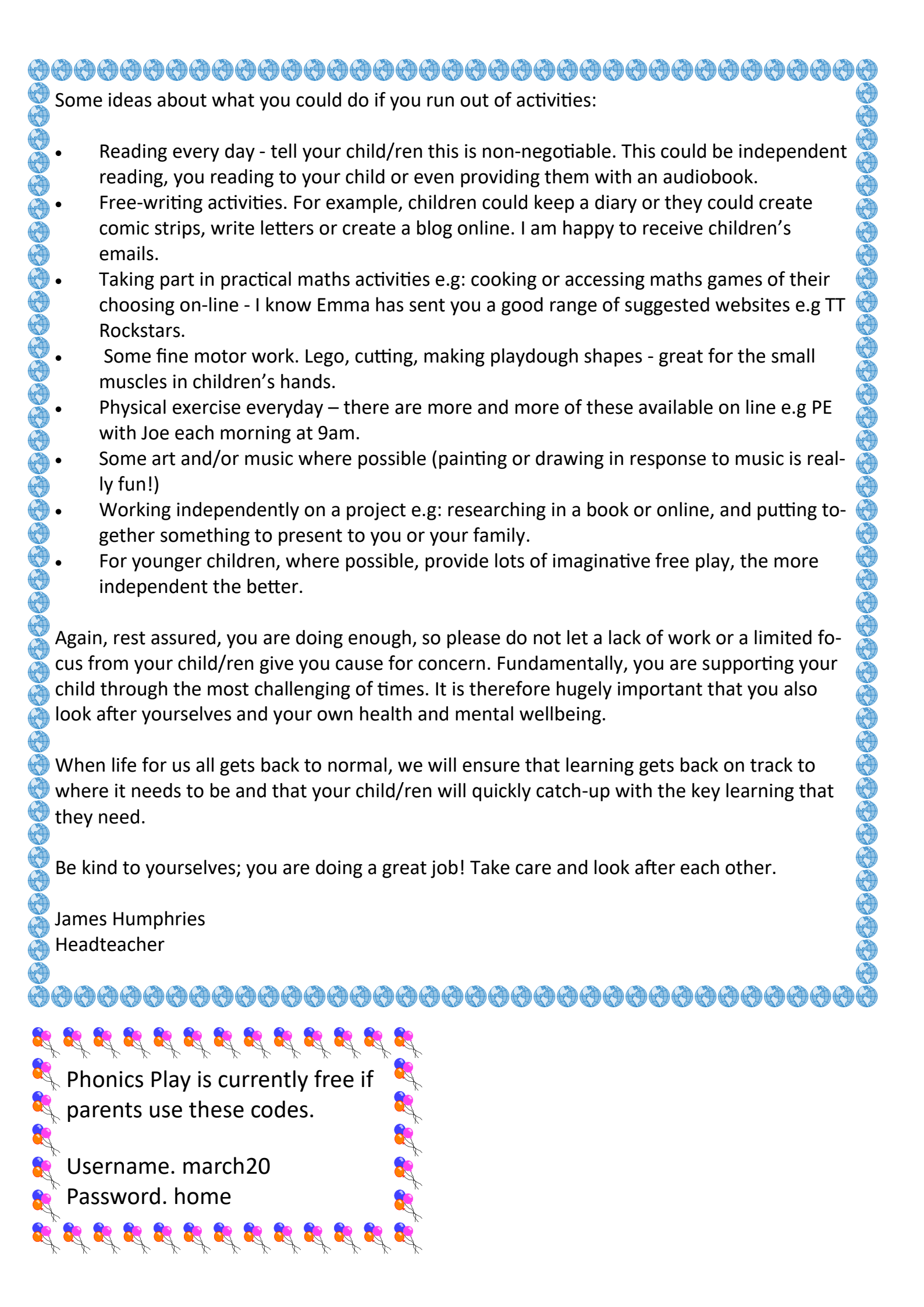
In terms of the work that has been set for your child/ren, I would like to give you our school's position on this and hopefully, offer you some reassurance. We are experiencing an unprecedented emergency situation that is adversely impacting on the whole world so having a sense of perspective is hugely important.

First of all, please try not to become overwhelmed by the work that has been set or feel under pressure that your child has to complete everything that has been provided by their class teacher. What you are now providing at home does not amount to home schooling and we do not expect you to fulfil the roles of class teachers. Your child is simply engaged in 'distance learning' and the hope is that they do the activities provided as it keeps them busy and provides them and you with a daily structure.

Also, there is nothing to stress or feel guilty about if your child does not want to engage with anything sent home by their teacher. You have the choice to provide your child with other learning-based activities that they could be doing at home, such as baking, reading (anything and everything), free-writing activities or even building lego! All of this is valuable learning. We are also mindful that many of you may be working from home and have more than one child, so again, please do not feel guilty if you think that you are not doing enough.

Please do check our school website for updated remote learning ideas. Most of these are suggestions. Please use them if they suit you and don't if they do not.

Also, please do not worry if you think that your child may fall behind in their learning. This will not be the case. Most of the work provided are activities that your child can already do and which consolidates their understanding of key concepts already taught. If children could all learn new concepts without specific teaching, we would not need teachers!



Some ideas about what you could do if you run out of activities:

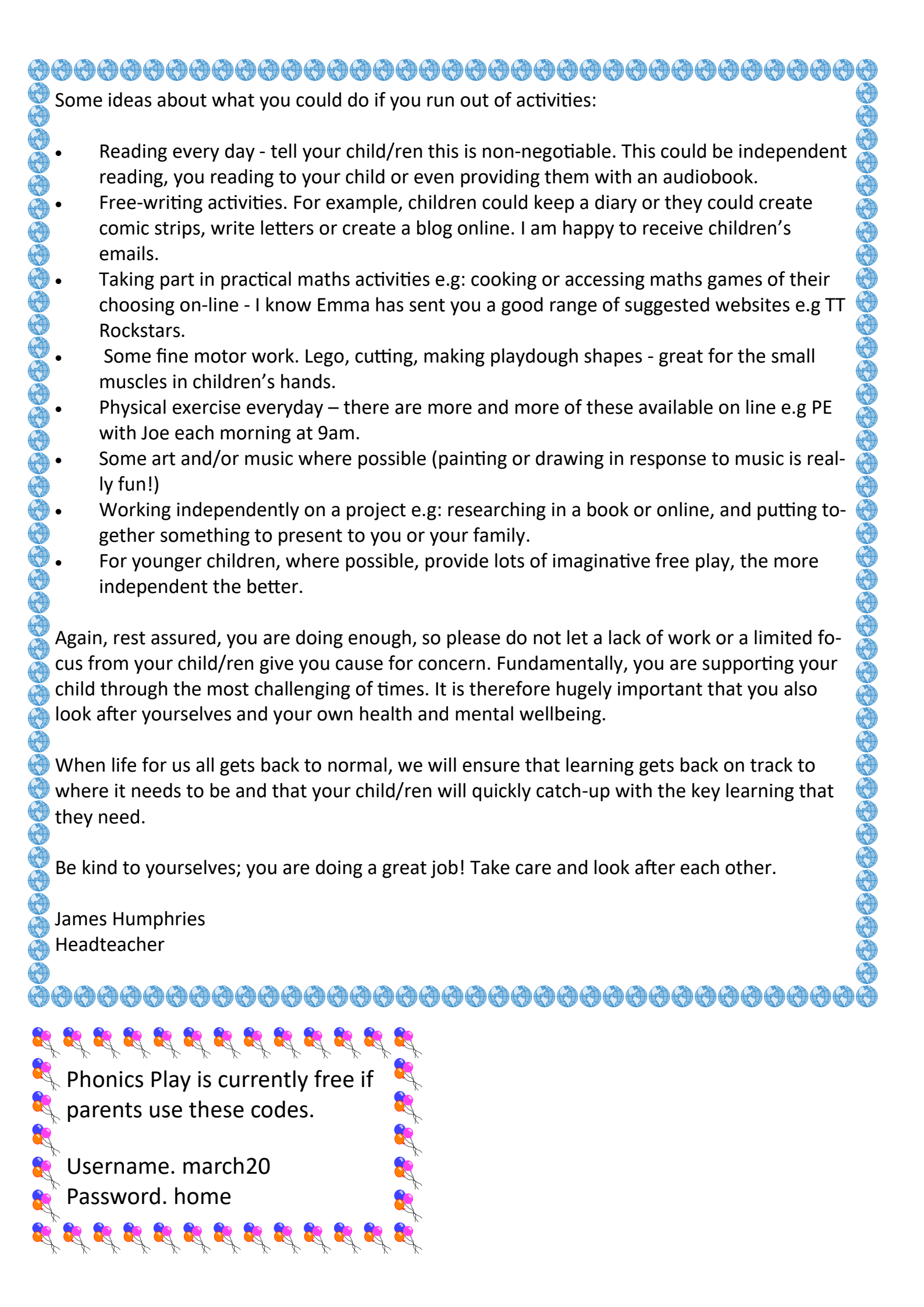
- Reading every day - tell your child/ren this is non-negotiable. This could be independent reading, you reading to your child or even providing them with an audiobook.
- Free-writing activities. For example, children could keep a diary or they could create comic strips, write letters or create a blog online. I am happy to receive children's emails.
- Taking part in practical maths activities e.g: cooking or accessing maths games of their choosing on-line - I know Emma has sent you a good range of suggested websites e.g TT Rockstars.
- Some fine motor work. Lego, cutting, making playdough shapes - great for the small muscles in children's hands.
- Physical exercise everyday – there are more and more of these available on line e.g PE with Joe each morning at 9am.
- Some art and/or music where possible (painting or drawing in response to music is really fun!)
- Working independently on a project e.g: researching in a book or online, and putting together something to present to you or your family.
- For younger children, where possible, provide lots of imaginative free play, the more independent the better.

Again, rest assured, you are doing enough, so please do not let a lack of work or a limited focus from your child/ren give you cause for concern. Fundamentally, you are supporting your child through the most challenging of times. It is therefore hugely important that you also look after yourselves and your own health and mental wellbeing.

When life for us all gets back to normal, we will ensure that learning gets back on track to where it needs to be and that your child/ren will quickly catch-up with the key learning that they need.

Be kind to yourselves; you are doing a great job! Take care and look after each other.

James Humphries
Headteacher



Phonics Play is currently free if
parents use these codes.

Username. march20
Password. home