



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 14 : 21st April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Summer Term

I very much hope that you managed to achieve some sort of rest and relaxation with your children over the Easter break. The weather helped and I hope that you managed to get out into the garden, balcony or that you managed a socially distant walk. These are indeed strange time that we are living through.

Purple Mash

On our INSET day (Monday), teachers had a training session on Purple Mash. This will be the platform that we will be using to set work for your child/ren for the summer term until we can welcome children back into school. You will have been sent a log in for your child/ren by email. Please try to log in (many of you have already) and take a look. Teachers will be able to set work through Purple Mash for your children, they can then respond to your children's work and set further tasks. It may take you a few days to familiarise yourself with this platform but given that some children have already logged in and have completed tasks I think they will become familiar quickly. Class teachers will be calling round to see how you are getting on.

YouTube Channel

Teachers have set up a YouTube channel where videos of assemblies can be hosted. These will be to celebrate Children of the Week (Tuesdays), Fr. Peter's Assemblies (Wednesdays) and Celebration of Children's Work (Fridays). Teachers will also post short videos to help with learning concepts here.

Zoom Meetings

In order to help children have some face-to-face contact with their teachers, they will let you know when these are going to take place. The meetings will be for 10 children (so everyone has a chance to speak) and these meetings will take place with the same group of children and at the same time each week. It would really help if you could encourage your child/ren to take part and behave appropriately during the call. Please email teachers if you are unsure of how to access the meeting. We are all here to help!

Loan of iPads and Laptops

If you are trying to share a device between multiple children then please drop me a line and we may be able to help with a loan of an iPad or laptop from school: admin@kentishtown.camden.sch.uk.

Food Hampers

If your child/ren are entitled to free school meals, Caterlink (our lunch provider) will deliver food items on Thursday of this week. 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.**

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.

Supporting Mental Health

I know this is a very challenging time for lots of families. Grant and Sharon McGran are the mental health leads in school and they are very happy to speak with any child (or parent) who needs support in this area. They have been working on a helpful leaflet signposting resources, websites and giving tips on how you can support your own as well as the mental health of your child/ren. This will be emailed out separately and it contains contact details for both Grant and Sharon.

However much learning you are doing with your child/ren please do not be too hard on yourselves, you are doing a fantastic job in supporting your families. We have been assured that we will have a period of notice when the government decide it is safe for us to reopen and we will notify you all as soon as this is made public.

With very best wishes,

James Humphries

Headteacher