

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School

Issue 3-21

22.01.21

Home Learning Support

What a tough week - dark days, wet weather and very intermittent internet access just adds to the current challenges. Well done - you have completed another week of home schooling. At least the sun is shining today! Two more resources to support both adults and children's mental health have been added to the school website so take a look.

The new Google Meet timetable was sent out yesterday along with support to hand in assignments on Google Classroom.

I have also set up a Whimble Primary School Classroom to use for everyone. This will be a place where I can share assemblies, certificates and other news which will hopefully help to keep your children motivated during these tricky times.

My first online assembly for children at home took place this afternoon and it was great to see so many of you. So my plan is to try and hold an assembly for those at home on Tuesdays and Fridays at 1.10pm. If for any reason I am unable to do one in person I will email out earlier that day and try and have a recorded one available.

Certificates

The certificates have been updated for this term to help support learning both at home and in school. Please use them to help motivate you child.

For the next two the certificate focus will be: RESPECT. Children can earn them by -

- Responding to comments appropriately (This can be online or in person depending on where you are. This includes feedback to tasks and being polite).
- Taking the time to ask someone how they are.

Team Points

Children can continue to earn team points even at home - as a minimum children are expected to submit two pieces of work each week and attend a Google Meet with their teacher. We have to monitor that at school and if it is achieved your child will be given 200 team points which will get added to the teams total for the week just like in school. A winning team will then be announced each week.



Reporting Covid

As a school we are still required to report the number of positive cases or children having to isolate due to close contact. This includes pupils in school and those at home on our school roll. If for any reason this happens to one of your children can you please send an email to the school office to report it.



Support at home

The 6Rs work for us all, so I thought I would try to use them to help parents.

Respect

Try and be patient - we know how hard it can be! If you need to let off steam (and we all do), try and do it in private.

Responsibility

Be proud of yourself - celebrate the successes. Often our internet connections are variable and can add to our frustrations. Be clear of your expectations - most of our children are capable of working for short periods of time independently once the task has been set up. We know they like one to one, but the reality in school is they can't and at home it is good practice to continue this, even if it allows you 10 minutes to have a cup of tea or put the washing going, encourage independence (do not feel guilty it is an important life skill).

Resourcefulness

Have something up your sleeve as an incentive or an alternative. There is no point battling on with something for the sake of it at that moment in time. Maybe compromise by playing a game or reading a story together. It can be revisited later.

Reasoning

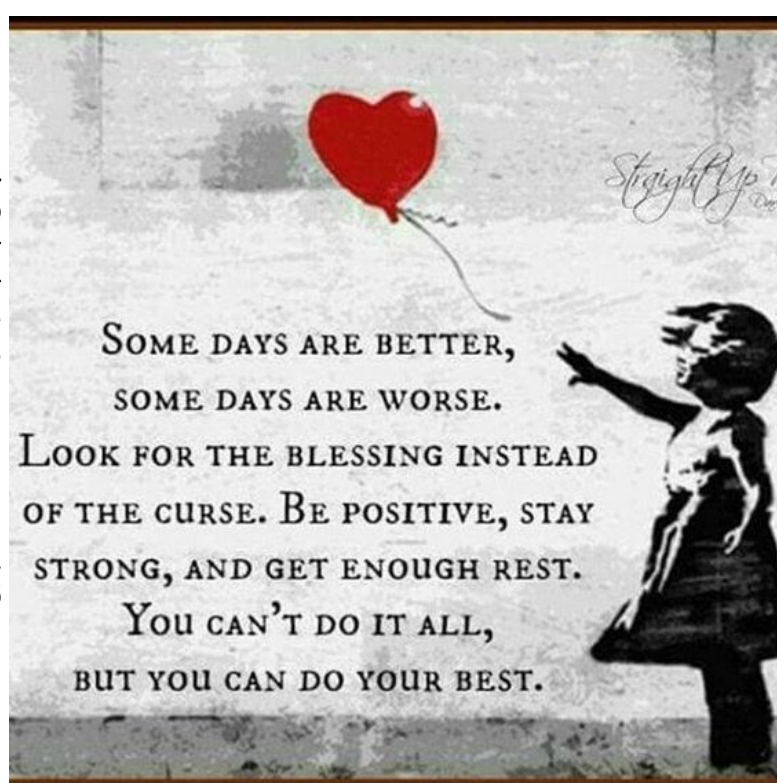
What style of learner are you? Does it match your child? Visual, Auditory and Kinaesthetic are often three learning styles that are talked about. (For more information see 'Type of Learner' sent out with this newsletter)

Reflection

Review and evaluate your timetable. We would recommend reviewing after two weeks - discuss with children what went well, what didn't and why. You will not get all the answers but, you may find there is one part of the day that seems to always be challenging.

Resilience

Breathe 3 4 5: Breathe in for 3 seconds, hold for 4 seconds and breathe out for 5 seconds. A simple way to support mental health.



Home Learning

Google Meets

Now your children have got used to the format of the meets, please feel free to leave them to it and use the time to do something for yourself.

Looking for something different:

Whimble Wassail

The school holds their own wassail over at the orchard prior to the annual village one. Both Emma Palmer and Jim Causey have helped and supported both events. (In fact the school gets a couple of mentions). This year they have produced a virtual wassail which includes a lot of information about the event. So, if you have never been along and just want to find out a bit more take a look at the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-TaQ325A1iE&feature=youtu.be>

Apples were, and still are an important aspect of the village. Enjoy!

Support with Children's Mental Health

This resource is designed to offer advice on how parents can safeguard their child/ren's mental health and promote their wellbeing and is available as a document and short video presentation.

<https://ssscpd.co.uk/education/parentsandguardians/child-mental-health-10-tips-for-parents/-/pj==s>

<https://whimble-primary.eschools.co.uk/website/parents/266488>

Dates for your diary

February 2021

Monday 15th to Friday 19th - Half term

April 2021

Thursday 1st April - last day of spring term

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