

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School

Issue 5-21

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What a challenging week - we really do need a break from this weather. Many of our children are struggling, both in school and at home, so do not feel you are alone. We are all tired and need a break. It is important that we all acknowledge the range of emotions we are having and talk about them.



When things are not going right and tempers are frayed or you are just too tired - give in. No one learns anything in this state and learning comes in many forms and there are various alternatives:

- ♦ Read a book together - this develops vocabulary and understanding.

(Don't forget the Collins EBooks—many of them are audio books too). Useful tip: using a HDMI cable, many devices can be linked to your TV for a much larger book. I was reminded of this when I took one of my Mr Men books down to read in Elm Class and the children said, "The book is so small", forgetting that they had only seen them in my assemblies on the whiteboards in class.

- ♦ Learn a rhyme or poem together - add actions. (I have added one of my favourites to the activities on Whimble Google Classroom)
- ♦ Play hangman - I do whole sentences and in class I am yet to win! (great for reading and spelling)
- ♦ Read a traditional story and then act it out (you could make props too) or use small world play. This can be developed into alternative versions as well.
- ♦ Make up stories together. Decide on some characters and a setting and off you go!
- ♦ Play Kim's game - this can be with objects, words, numbers.
- ♦ Play hide and seek - write some facts out on bits of paper or card and hide around the room or house. Clues could also be written (a really clever way to get children writing without them realising it!)
- ♦ Many games include lots of other skills particularly linked to maths and English. Games like 4 in a row, dominoes, Ludo - all involve thinking ahead and strategy skills. Pictionary, Odd One Out help to develop language.
- ♦ Fine motor skills can be improved in many ways - turn on some music and draw something, building with construction kits or making a puzzle.



The best learning is informal and done practically. Believe in yourself and give yourselves a break too!

Whimble Primary School Online Class

If you haven't already accepted the invite to join the class please do as I can only assign certificates to the children if they have done so.

'Children's Mental Health Awareness Week'

So across the school (whether in school or at home), children are having a go at:

1. Design a badge - this will be made on your return to school so keep it safe. (template size will be placed in Whimble Primary Google Classroom - Activities)
2. Make some salt dough and create something for yourself. (recipe on Google Classroom)
3. Make Valentine's cards for your family.



Class teachers are also adding suggestions for things to try next week as well.

Half term will be different

Although many will be glad there is no set school work to complete (the teachers will be pleased too) we appreciate that the usual activities will also not be available due to the current lockdown.

Our Half Term Activity Jigsaw has been put together to provide some new ideas. We thought it would be worth providing some suggestions and using next week to book them in the diary for the week after so everyone has something to look forward too. I have also attached a weekly plan (kindly provided by a parent) which could be used to help plan in advance.

For example - family film night—decide on a film and what snacks to have. Could the children - make a poster to advertise it? Or make tickets for the event? Or organise the list of snacks?

Design a game - use the format in the booklet or make one based on your own favourite game.

We would also like everyone to make their own worry monster from anything you like over half term.

Also find attached a Wellbeing booklet which includes lots of other ideas as well.



Something Different

Mother's Day Competition

Mother's Day is on 14th March this year.

Could you design your own card for your mum? Or write a lovely poem or piece about your mum? Would you like to try and win your lovely mum a bunch of flowers donated by Dilly's Florist and a box of chocolates donated by the Co-op?

Two age groups - Reception/Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

Card designs to be submitted electronically or post or by hand (letter box in main door).

Closing date 28th February 2021



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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