

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School

Issue 2-20

24.04.20

Well, what a week - technology had a bit of a meltdown at the start of the week with the internet being stretched between school children trying to access their learning and companies trying to complete online forms for their furlough monies. As the week has gone on the issue has eased. Many children have logged onto eSchools and have been having a go at the activities set by their teachers - thank you for helping your children do this. Most of the tasks should only take around half an hour to complete and can be spread throughout the day. Some have been chosen as preparation for some learning and activities for children to continue with when they hopefully return to school.

Parents - take care of yourselves too.

Part of home schooling is setting routines for your children whilst encouraging some independence. This will also help the adults to have their own routine and help to provide them with some 'down time' of their own. Where possible share the childcare and timetable in breaks for yourself, even if that is only for 10 minutes whilst you sit quietly and have a cup of tea (with the children occupying themselves, watching TV or with another adult). We all need some quiet space or time to ourselves - if this can be agreed in advance, everyone knows where they stand.

Sometimes you
need to take
a break from
everyone and
spend time alone,
to experience,
appreciate, and
love yourself.

— Robert Tew —

Nothing makes you
more vulnerable
than your refusal
to be honest with
yourself about
what you want.

~Charly Emery

It is also important to be honest with each other so if you require a break you can take it - even if that can only be for two minutes whilst you go somewhere and scream to release the tension! Remember everyone has their own struggles and they vary in size and regularity.

It may seem daft but we all crave some sort of routine - it helps with mental health and good sleep patterns. It could also be a good time as adults, to learn or do something new. There is a huge amount of free training out there at the moment.

Please continue to keep in touch - we have seen some great photos and pieces of work. Feel free to use us as the 'ogre' in order to encourage your children to complete things (we really don't mind!)

Something Different for the Weekend - Something for all the family

During school closures, Discovery Education Espresso's popular **daily challenges** are available on our social media channels! Each weekday morning, you'll find a new post ready to share (or retweet).

Search [#EspressoDailyChallenge](#) on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#)



Home Learning *General tips:*

Further ideas to support learning at home in the attachment (particularly KS2) - including writing a book review, ideas on how to practise tables and some great pictures to write about.

The BBC have launched their Daily Lessons Bitesize - these are for each year group and include maths, English and other subject activities. There are some great tasks and videos to watch and supports learning and understanding. This may also help with that mini-break for your cup of tea.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Both these sites have resources and activities to help support phonics learning. Reception children are working in Phase 3 and starting with Phase 4, Year 1 working on Phase 5 and Year 2 working on Phase 6. I have also attached the Phase sound mats to help support you at home. Endless indoor and outdoor games can be played with sound cards making real or not real (alien) words.

<https://new.phonicsplay.co.uk>

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/>

Thank you to all those who have already suggested authors and books for me to read - I have a few more to take home with me at the weekend but, I am still open to suggestions. I will put my list out again next week. (After reading Wonder I noticed the Film was on but only caught the second half, however, it is on again at the weekend so I will get to watch all of it - along with a box of tissues!)

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