

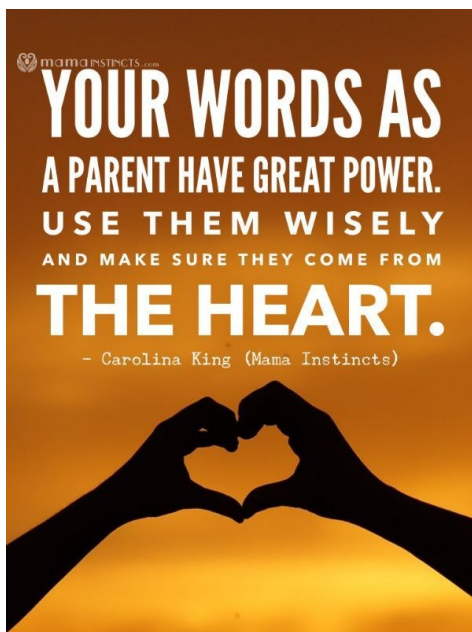
CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School

Issue 3-20

1.05.20

Well, what a shock to the system - some rain. I think we had all forgotten we were still in April with the lovely weather we have been having. I am sure our gardens have appreciated it though.



Many of your children are sharing their work with us and they are doing a grand job. Some parents have also contacted us for support and advice too, particularly in helping them to get a balanced schooling routine.

Remember to be firm but fair. I have attached a page from Positive Parenting (managing your 4-8 year old) which has some useful information for those of you who are struggling. Remember though - we all have our off days, usually linked to tiredness or illness. Stay strong - you can do it!

Something Different

Explore the limits of outer space, plunge to the depths of the ocean and travel to the far-flung corners of our incredible world. Collect fun facts along the way and impress your family members!

We've taken 30 short clips from Discovery Education Espresso's Video Zone and assigned each video a challenging question - which you will find both educational and enjoyable.

Start on Day 1, watch the daily video and answer the related question - to watch the videos, you will need to log in first (see username and password on child's message on ESchools).

The quiz questions are aimed at Key Stage 2 pupils, however, all primary children are invited to play along.



Join us on our summer adventure!

Something for VE Day Friday 8th May

Two useful sites suggested by one of our parents - thank you.

<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/ve-day>

<https://ve-vjday75.gov.uk/toolkit/>



NRich Maths



This is a great website with some very different mathematical activities and challenges for all ages.

https://nrich.maths.org/14559?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=Primary%2520feature%2520in%2520newsletter&utm_campaign=Teacher%2520newsletter%2520%2520primary%2520link

Important Information for Parents

There is a big push from the NHS emphasising the importance of going to the hospital or GP when required. Cases in our hospitals are low and are the risks of attending the hospital for treatment.

Key messages includes:

- If you are pregnant it is important that you still attend your antenatal appointments and continue to seek advice from your midwife or maternity team.
- If you are worried about your health or the health of your unborn baby, please contact your midwife or maternity team.
- If you are worried about the health of your baby or child, please call 111.
- If it's a serious or life-threatening emergency, call 999.



Increasing Your Skills for Free

Free courses are available through the new online platform, the Skills Toolkit. This platform signposts to free, high-quality digital and numeracy courses to help people build up their skills, progress in work and boost their job prospects and confidence whilst at home.

Courses on offer cover a range of levels, from everyday maths and the use of email and social media at work to more advanced training. All courses are available online and are flexible so that people can work through them at their own pace.

<https://theskillstoolkit.campaign.gov.uk/>

HM Government

The Skills Toolkit

New free online learning platform to boost workplace skills

Boost your skills while staying at home at gov.uk/theskillstoolkit



Yoga Lessons

Yoga video lessons that children (with Autism and without) can practise at home during the Coronavirus Lockdown - which I am offering for FREE!



Here's the link: <https://bit.ly/2XS0EVV>

There is no catch. Like everyone else we are trying to do our bit to help.

The lessons are simply structured, easy to follow and to teach, as well as safe, highly engaging and great fun. Parents and staff do not need any yoga knowledge or experience to do this. I have been teaching yoga in SEN & Mainstream Schools for almost 25 years and have developed these methods over that time.

Although I created the videos for children who are on the Autism Spectrum, they are also ideal for neurotypical children from EYFS, Reception and Years 1 & 2 so feel free to let Primary Schools in your area know about this.

The lessons consist of THREE short animated videos, which your parents (and staff) can download from my website at the link shown, and use when it best suits the children. So no Zoom, no streaming problems; no privacy worries.

They can stop, start, freeze, go back, fast forward, when they want...and revisit time after time, after time; thereby reinforcing the activities which, we know, with children on the spectrum, is **key**.

Your pupils will be learning simple yoga postures, a sequence and a relaxation technique, and the whole family will be having fun at the same time.

Jigsaw

As a school we have started using Jigsaw this year and they are offering to help support families and schools at this difficult time, by giving away Jigsaw Families stories and Calm Me time audios...on home page of www.jigsawpshe.com



Activall

The company that produces Activall (we had two fitted last year) has sent the following information: Our Managing Director has asked that Anomaly Play share with you all of their exercise and activity videos on YouTube for use by Schools and parents/carers at home to help keep the children active!

This is a free resource!

Here is the link to the video library which we will be updating weekly - <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL3au4tQ44f37Y8tFCWwGNBBMsEMUNUO7->

Video library includes content on; Exercising, Internet safety, Health & hygiene, Mental health, Cyber-bullying and curriculum based interactive quizzes plus much more.

Support for Parents and Children

The Communication and Interaction Team have support on the Babcock website including a range of tips and ideas for helping children (and adults) with staying at home concerns and communication tips to support anxiety (which may be leading to more extreme behaviours).

<https://www.babcockldp.co.uk/campaigns/coronavirus-support-for-schools-parents-and-pupils/links-for-home-schooling-resources-and-activities/communication-and-interaction>

Talking to children about difficult subjects is always hard; as adults we know much more than they do, and we worry about making them anxious.

https://ican.org.uk/a-message-to-our-supporters-on-coronavirus/how-to-talk-to-children-about-coronavirus/?utm_source=ICC+March+2020&utm_campaign=b2f76d15fa-I+CAN+Communicate+-+March+2020&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3c0e36dac3-b2f76d15fa-116393953

Recommended resources for home-learning and helping children's understanding

https://ican.org.uk/news/resources-for-home-learning-and-helping-childrens-understanding/?utm_source=ICC+March+2020&utm_campaign=b2f76d15fa-I+CAN+Communicate+-+March+2020&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3c0e36dac3-b2f76d15fa-116393953

<https://www.autismspeaks.org/covid-19-information-and-resources>

<https://www.specialneedsjungle.com/calming-coronavirus-anxiety-children-everyone-else/>

The ASD team have completed some work on the Specialist Autism Assessment website and have uploaded information sheets and videos. They are working on putting another video on there soon. link is <https://childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk/autistic-spectrum-disorder/>

Home Learning *General tips*: Information about Parent Carer Forum Devon and how to get involved.

Parent Carer Forum Devon is an organised group of parents and carers of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) within Devon local authority. Our aim is to make sure that services provided from education, health and care meet the needs of children with SEND and their families.

We do this by gathering the views of local families and then working in partnership with the local authority, education settings, health providers and other providers to highlight where local services, processes and commissioners are working well, or challenge when changes or improvements need to be made.

Parent carers can often pinpoint problems frequently experienced by families with children with SEND. The forum can then share this information with the local authority and local health services. This knowledge is useful to professionals as they plan services to meet needs.

Right now we are in unknown times, and education, health and care are needing to adapt and change their response in how to meet the needs of our children and families. It is really important to hear what's working well and also what is difficult right now, and through the forum's regular meetings and conversations with education health and care we can feed back the lived experience of Devon families during the COVID19 pandemic.

We look forward to hearing from you and hearing how things are for your child/ young person with SEND and your family, but meanwhile please join our Facebook group here; <https://www.facebook.com/groups/parentcarerforumdevon/>

And you can sign up to receive our newsletter here; <http://eepurl.com/gOL6Mf>

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