



# St Nicholas C of E Primary School

## Virtual School Newsletter 3

22nd April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well. School returned on Monday and I have to admit it was the most awful start of term I have ever had—only a handful of children and only a few of our team here. The only compensation was the sunshine! We now know that there is no chance of schools returning in the near future. It is likely that for many of the children the novelty of being off school is beginning to wear off and that they are beginning to realise that this is the new norm for now. At school the children have structure and this is what helps us with the discipline the children, plus a mixture of academic and non-academic work. I would encourage everyone to try and work out a timetable so the children are clear what they are doing all day—get them to draw the pictures and agree when they are going to work and play.

I am aware that everyone is trying to juggle a very poor internet connection (many of the teachers are having a nightmare with this when husband and wife are working from home!) and the VLE is struggling to keep up with demand. All of the children have their VLE logons and all of the teachers are leaving messages and setting work for the children. We would encourage you to ask the children to delete their chats at the end of each day as the continuation of Hi, Ok, Yes no and other single word type messages is definitely clogging up the system! You probably feel overwhelmed by the number of resources out there.

Thank you to everyone who completed the survey it helped us know the numbers of children who do not have broadband. If you didn't get a survey that will be because we do not have an up to date email address. Please could you ensure you give this to Mr Low when he phones to check in with you.

We are providing the children with lots of work via the VLE and active learn and there is another paperpack on the way. We are very aware that there are a number of households that do not have broadband or access to laptops or tablets. Unfortunately the government scheme does not include primary aged children. For those of you without broadband you are able to access a learning programme each day at 9am for primary on the red button. To access this turn the TV onto BBC and press the red button on your control, the list of programmes available will then come up. These programmes can also be accessed via iplayer. The 'bitesize' online is also a great resource of daily lessons at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons> . For those of you who want a teacher taught programme then a daily programme of lessons can be found at <https://www.thenational.academy/> after each taught lesson questions and quizzes are set. This resource requires a lot of internet!

We are also continuing to put up work on our website so keep looking there for the classes work to, especially for art, DT, RE, project and science.

**Sharon**

I am delighted that Sharon is now recovered and back working on her phone!

If you need anything or just need to touch base you can text me on 07949 554187 (the phone will be switched on between 9 and 4 each day).

Work can be found on the class pages at

<https://stnicholascofe.eschools.co.uk/website> . If you want to be part of our facebook group please find us at <https://www.facebook.com/stnicholascofeprimary/> .

With best wishes,

Nicki

### **Free School Meals for after the holidays**

Further vouchers will be sent to families whose children are NOT expected to attend school. They will be for Sainsburys. They should arrive with you by Friday 30th April and cover the period up to and including the 24th May. These vouchers will NOT be sent to families who are expected to be attending school.

### **Information from the DFE for parents**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Are you struggling to explain to your child what is going on in the world at the moment? If so the NSPCC website has some good resources.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/coronavirus-advice-support-children-families-parents/>

**Please don't let the good weather tempt you out for too long or too far. Protect the NHS stay at home.**

### **Keeping Your Child Safe Online**

This is more crucial than ever before when we are setting so much work online advice for parents can be found at

<https://parentinfo.org/>

**Sadly we need to remember that even in a crisis criminals are at work.**

Safeguarding our Children is everyones responsibility if you believe a child is in immediate harm please phone the police on 999 or to report a concern dial 01225396313 the duty social worker team