



Weekly Newsletter Friday, 1st May 2020

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carers and Children,

Keeping in Touch!

As our time apart continues we are working to increase the ways in which we are keeping in touch with you. Teachers have begun to make telephone contact with families this week. This is just to say hello and to catch up with how you are. Please do continue to email the staff with any queries, concerns or comments you have. Mrs Wallis has chosen the book 'The Boy Who Grew Dragons' which she would have presented in our weekly story assembly this term. Not to be defeated, however, she has filmed this at home and Chapter 1 is now on our school facebook page; do have a look.

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Margarets-at-Cliffe-Community-Primary-School-139549382890289/>

It would be lovely to post some pictures of the work the children are doing on the school social media pages. Please do email me on headteacher@st-margarets-dover.kent.sch.uk with photographs that you (and your child) are happy to have shared and I will upload these.

Meanwhile the teachers have been using video conferencing to hold our weekly staff meeting. We have enjoyed the babies and teenagers as well as dogs joining in, the views of each other's homes and the opportunity to 'be in the same place' together.

Please do all that you can to keep in touch with us; we are missing you all and looking forward to a time (yet to be announced) when we can safely be back together.

Helen Comfort

Message from the Class 4 Teacher

Well another week has passed. We would like to thank those of you who have emailed us over the last couple of weeks and kept us informed of your work and activities. It has been lovely to see some of your marvellous work, which has been excellently presented and well researched. Well done! Mr Ball rang all parents who had not been in touch by email and was pleased to hear that the home learning is going well with no significant problems reported. Mr Ball had to leave a message for some parents. If you have not been in touch or heard from Mr Ball could you please email to let us know that you and your family are coping and that home learning is proceeding without any significant issues. You seem to be settling into a routine now and managing your time splendidly. We have also been pleased to hear that, during this beautiful weather, you have been getting out on your bikes and going for some lovely long walks, with the family. Maybe next time you go out you could explore the different kinds of habitats different animals live in, to aid your English work. We look forward to hearing from you during the week and until then stay home, stay well and keep safe.

Mr Ball and Mrs Norley

Well Being

Some children like the structure which the routine of school day gives them – it helps them feel more secure, and can reduce anxiety. To help establish routines have you tried: Creating your own home-schooling rules? Creating and using your own visual timetable? Including time for life and social skills? Developing rewards and motivators? Establishing a work station? If home-learning time is becoming a battle, please don't worry too much about how much learning time you're managing to have at home. If you are having any particular issues - we are here for you; email your class teacher who can direct you to further advice if needed. Most of all, try to enjoy this extra time together and use it to try activities which are fun for everyone. We hope your home-schooling journey is varied, interesting and enjoyable!

Useful Weblinks

Home - BBC Bitesize
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
www.twinkl.co.uk – code for free access: CVDTWINKLHELPS
www.purplemash.com
www.vocabularyninja.co.uk/premium
<https://trockstars.com>
<https://www.annafreud.org/on-my-mind/self-care/>

The Week Ahead!

Week commencing 4th May 2020

Friday 8th May – VE Bank Holiday

A Mouse Called Julian by Joe Todd-Stanton.

This teaching sequence will be spread over 11 sessions. The text offers:

- rich opportunities for children to think and talk about themselves and their immediate lives, including family, friends.
- children's understanding of story themes and events will be enriched if they explore the countryside habitat alongside this text.
- Explore the different kinds of habitats different animals live in, why these are suited to them and how some animals adapt to fit their surroundings and situations through evolution and adaptation.

