



Dear Parents / Carers

Yesterday should have been the first day of the Easter holidays but in this extraordinary, strange spring, our school remains open for the children of our key workers while the rest of the community stays at home to fight this pandemic.

Coronavirus is now a pandemic rather than an epidemic and I learnt this weekend that 'epidemic' is derived from the Greek word meaning 'on the people'. The Greeks applied it to anything that spread through a population – from fog to rumour to civil war, until Hippocrates requisitioned the word to refer exclusively to the spread of disease.

The responsibility for what we do and how we react is certainly, 'on the people' and the reaction of our community has been admirable. Staff at Goosewell Primary Academy have adopted a new style of teaching and interacting with their pupils in a ridiculously short space of time. Children have adapted to steering their own learning and parents to administering home learning while juggling everything else that goes with being a parent and provider.

I am grateful for the many emails thanking the staff at Goosewell, which I have shared with the team. They are hugely uplifting. Working with unfamiliar applications and presenting to a potentially global audience has been daunting but my team has risen to the challenge.

We will not upload any new content to YouTube over the scheduled Easter holiday fortnight, however new lessons will be published from Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2020. We will review content before then and we would welcome further feedback from parents and children. To this end, I'll forward a survey coming out later this week and I would appreciate your input.

I want to emphasise that the work being supplied for children is new to them and it is important that they give it their attention and energy so that, when we resume full school lessons, everyone is at the same point in the class curriculum. That said, I do realise many families are managing a delicate balance of facilitating academic work while managing multiple children, access to laptops and cabin fever!

Great things can come from home learning; Isaac Newton left Cambridge in 1665 after the university closed during the Great Plague of London. Newton formulated his theories on calculus, optics and the laws of gravitation while home learning in his native Lincolnshire. So children of Goosewell, set to it, log on and let's see if anyone has an apple fall on their head!

With very best wishes.



James Gentile  
Headteacher

## Year Group News

**Reception** Hello Reception children and families! We hope that you are keeping well whilst helping our fantastic NHS and staying at home. We just have to say how wonderful it has been to catch up with lots of your learning as you record it on TAPESTRY. We have seen you embracing the activities uploaded on our YouTube channel as well as keeping in touch with us all via TAPESTRY. Following the 2 weeks of the Easter break, this support for learning at home will continue with resources for phonics learning with a focus on speed sounds, progressive maths activity linked to the White Rose scheme of work and plenty of craft, science and creative fun to dip into. We will gradually attempt to phase in learning which will set children up with the skills to guide them towards being 'Year 1 ready' as would normally be the case at this point in the academic year. Our focus text will still be 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle but stay tuned for Julia Donaldson's, 'What the Ladybird Heard' which will follow. Look after yourselves and keep smiling.

**Year 1** Well what a strange week! We hope you are all feeling safe and well and that you are all coping as best you can being stuck at home. We hope you are keeping busy and following some sort of routine. That is definitely helping us and our families get through this. The wonderful sunshine is also really helping. Please try to watch our films on YouTube to help your children continue with their daily learning. They should be logging in to daily RWI Phonics, English and Maths lessons as well as continuing with their reading at home. After Easter, there will be a brand new set of RWI Phonics lessons uploaded onto YouTube for each group. The Maths learning will be based around measuring, focussing on weight and capacity. The children were really looking forward to this area of maths as they love the practical side of weighing items and pouring water to find how much a container can hold. Our English lessons will be based around comic strips. We will be looking at the different features of these in preparation to make our own the following week. Please log on to YouTube after the Easter break to find these films. If you're looking for ideas over Easter, here are a few...share the Easter story, make an Easter card, write clues for an Easter egg hunt, make this into a map or an Easter treasure hunt. Design and make an Easter bonnet or basket, bake some Easter biscuits or hot cross buns. Decorate a hard-boiled egg or have an egg and spoon race in the garden. Feel free to email any pictures to the school office on [admin@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk](mailto:admin@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk) so that your wonderful learning can be added to our social media and we can see what you've been up to. We miss you all and hope to see you soon. Stay safe and keep busy. Hugs and smiles from the Year 1 team.

**Year 2** Thank you to all of our families for their wonderful effort to support their children's learning at home last week. We hope that you've been able to access all the videos and that they have been helpful and not too challenging! We recognise that things aren't always easy so just try your best and anything that you are not sure about either contact your teacher through the school email or we can communicate with you through the Dojo system. We sent you a letter with instructions and a log in for your child with all the home learning information. We will check emails daily and get back to you as soon as we can. But please don't worry, we appreciate your support and if it gets too hard just stop. It's been great to get such positive comments from so many parents and it's lovely to hear that the children have enjoyed hearing their teacher's voices! Please share any work that you are proud of with us. It's great to receive good news! Now is time for a little break before lessons will continue on YouTube but we have suggested a few fun ideas for you to do at home on the last page. Maybe you could create a grid together and colour each box in as you complete an activity? Why not think of your own activities too? Don't forget to create lots of different rainbows for your windows. We will continue to share good ideas and links on our Facebook and a Twitter feeds. Try to keep as active as possible, read often and explore creatively and imaginatively. Take care and keep safe everyone. From the Year 2 team.



YouTube lessons  
will recommence  
on Tuesday 14th  
April 2020

The Gosling Trust remains open for  
wraparound care for the children of Key  
Workers. To book, please contact  
[thegoslingtrust@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk](mailto:thegoslingtrust@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk)

# Year Group News

**Year 3** We have been overwhelmed by the fantastic effort of the children (and parents) with their home learning this week - well done to all. It has been wonderful to chat to so many Year 3's on MS Teams and see photos and videos of what you have been up to. We have seen some fantastic performances of 'The Rascally Cake'. Over the next two weeks we will be taking a break from our YouTube videos but don't forget if you need something to do there are lots of ideas in the front of your home learning book. We'd also love to see any creative projects that you have been doing at home.

**Year 4** We hope you have all enjoyed your first week of homeschooling and have been able to follow the YouTube lessons. It has been great to see so many of you on Teams sharing your learning; there have been some impressive calligram photos and even some videos! After the Easter Break, we will be using our new topic based on the Anglo Saxons to inspire our writing. We will ask the children to focus on one particularly important King from that era and complete some research on him. This will lead to their very own illustrated fact file and even a Top Trump card for him! In reading, we will start our new text 'How to be a viking' and we think you may recognise some of the characters! In Maths we will be continuing to write and compare decimals. In the meantime, try out our Easter Learning, experiencing life as an Anglo Saxon in readiness for our new topic 'Traders and Raiders!'

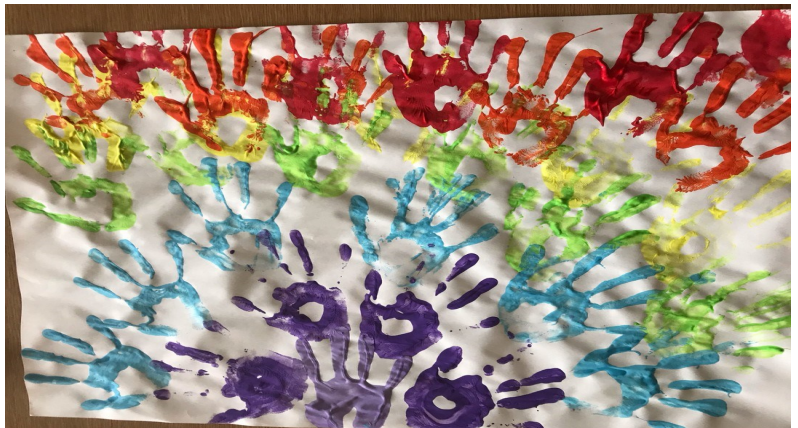
**Year 5** We hope that all Year 5 children and their families are well and that you are all adapting to the amount of time you are now spending at home, hopefully having some fun together, as well as embarking on your home learning journey. It is great to see that so many of you have successfully logged on to Microsoft Teams and we have enjoyed reading your general conversations in addition to seeing photographs of your learning. Cherry has used an empty drinks bottle to plant some seeds, Harry has been baking banana bread and Lola has successfully multiplied fractions. If you have not used Microsoft Teams yet, remember that your unique log in information was sent home on a letter. Ideally, we would like all children to be able to access this software so that they can ask any questions about the learning tasks set. We hope that you enjoyed your first week of YouTube lessons. After the Easter holiday, our English unit will link to the well-known children's book 'Charlotte's Web'. We will be using an abridged version of the story, but this may well be a book that you have at home or one that you would like to download to be able to read the full story. Keep smiling and stay safe.

**Year 6** Last week saw a fantastic home learning effort from Year 6. The teachers have thoroughly enjoyed communicating with the children through Microsoft Teams and seeing the fantastic things they have been doing at home. Some highlights included creative writing based on World War 2 German soldiers, time travelling characters and even characters who like to bend the rules! It was great to see so many children supporting each other through Microsoft Teams on their maths learning as well. Year 6 children allowed their creativity to come through other activities whilst they are at home too. We saw some fabulous examples of rainbow art in windows and on walls as well as some impressive sketching. Keep up the fantastic work Year 6.

**Our next virtue is.....**

**Hope:**

To want something to happen or be true and think that it could happen or be true.



*Rainbow created by #TeamGoosewell last week.*

## Parent Support Adviser News from Jo Penk

During this unsettled period, Jo continues to provide vital support to our Goosewell families. She is available each morning from Monday-Thursday and can be contacted via [jopenkpsa@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk](mailto:jopenkpsa@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk) or via the School Office on 482960 where a message may be left for her and she will do her best to get back to you.

Don't forget to look at the PSA section of the Goosewell Academy website, for information on ideas, support and activities for families throughout this challenging period. Click [PSA](#) to keep informed of all the most recent updates. The Naval Families Federation have shared a wonderful resource of activities and ideas to get families through the next few weeks: [NFF.org.uk](http://NFF.org.uk)

## SEND Updates

There are many activities online that will help you support your child over the coming weeks. We are aware that their emotional, communication and sensory needs will be of paramount importance to you and them during this time. If you need any advice or support with individual needs over the coming weeks please do not hesitate to contact us and we will do all we can to support you. We can be contacted via the school office at [admin@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk](mailto:admin@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk)

Here is a link to a CAMHS leaflet that has a great visual schedule example, along with some useful transition tips and some activities: [CAMHS leaflet](#). This can also be found on the school website under the About Us>Special Education Needs page.

Take care

Julie Mills and Clare Phillips

## Teddy Bear Hunt

Children are 'Going on A Bear Hunt' on their daily exercise walks. Why not display one of your favourite teddies in your windows to help create Bear Hunts throughout the streets of Plymstock.



## A Wish Jar

Here is a simple idea for you to try at home. During these challenging times, every time you wish you could do something, go somewhere, treat yourselves, see someone you love, visit a new place, invite people to visit you....write it down on a post it note and put it in a jar. When this is all behind us, you can work your way through the jar and be more grateful than ever for the little and lovely things in our lives.



## Rainbows

We have loved seeing the rainbows that you have been making for your windows to create colourful rainbow trails around Plymstock and Plymouth. Keep sending your pictures in to us to share on our social media feeds or via the newsletter. Email them to [admin@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk](mailto:admin@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk) or share them on your own social media feeds using the #goosewellgallery hashtag and we will be able to view them there. Let us know how many rainbows you spot on your daily walks.



Just for fun grid.

How many of these activities can you do over the Easter holidays?


Play a board game	Bake a cake	Make a time capsule to open in 10 years	Do some finger painting
Watch a film with your family	Play hide and seek in your house	Play the floor is lava	Complete a puzzle
Make a den out of sheets	Draw a portrait of your family	Make up a dance routine to your favourite song	Lay in the garden and look at the clouds
Count and mark how many birds you see over a 30 minute time slot	Make some bunting for your bedroom	Help your family lay and tidy up the table after meals	Read your favourite story to someone in your house

**Keeping Fit & Active**

Don't forget to check out the Goosewell PE Playlist on our YouTube channels. This fabulous Playlist brings together workouts, exercise videos and dance workouts from all your favourite PE gurus....Jump Start Jonny, The Body Coach, Kids Bop Kids, Popsugar Fitness and GoNoodle. Not just for kids...active fun for the whole family!

[PE Playlist YouTube](#)

Just click on the link above to view the playlist.



## COVID-19 DAILY SCHEDULE

Before 9:00am	Wake up	Eat breakfast, make your bed, get dressed, put PJ's in laundry
9:00-10:00	Morning walk	Family walk with the dog. Yoga if it's raining
10:00-11:00	Academic time	NO ELECTRONICS Sudoku books, flash cards, study guide, Journal
11:00-12:00	Creative time	Legos, magnatiles, drawing, crafting, play music, cook or bake, etc
12:00	Lunch	
12:30PM	Chore time	A - wipe all kitchen table and chairs. B - wipe all door handles, light switches, and desk tops. C - Wipe both bathrooms - sinks and toilets
1:00-2:30	Quiet time	Reading, puzzles, nap
2:30-4:00	Academic time	ELECTRONICS OK Ipad games, Prodigy, Educational show
4:00-5:00	Afternoon fresh air	Bikes, Walk the dog, play outside
5:00-6:00	Dinner	
6:00-8:00	Free TV time	Kid showers x3
8:00	Bedtime	All kids
9:00PM	Bedtime	All kids who follow the daily schedule & don't fight

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## Free Daily Resources For Children



### PE with Joe Wicks On YouTube

Week days at 9am but you can visit any time on youtube to view the workout.

### Wildlife With with Steve Backshall On Facebook

Every day at 9:30am for answering all your wildlife, biology, conservation, geography and exploration questions.



### Science with Maddie Moate on YouTube

Weekdays 11am. Maddie & Greg chat about science and nature!



### Maths With Carol Vorderman

Free access to the her maths website: [www.themathsfactor.com](http://www.themathsfactor.com)



### Dance with Oti Mabuse On Facebook

Every day at 11.30am but children can view the class at any time.



### Music with Myleene Klass on YouTube

Twice a week. Next one Friday 27 March 10am, but can view any time.



### Storytime With David Walliams

Free story everyday at 11am on his website: [www.worldofdavidwalliams.com](http://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com)