

Knights Enham Junior School



Newsletter

Spring term Issue 11

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01264 394777

adminoffice@knightsenham-jun.hants.sch.uk

Dear Parents,

I would like to thank everyone for being so supportive in a very difficult situation. The majority of parents are sensibly keeping their children at home; hopefully safely isolating, whilst a few school staff are running day care for a minority of children of key workers and trying to keep safe themselves.

We have provided learning packs to those children who were in school on Friday and plan to get the rest delivered as soon as possible – by post. We will not be able to repeat this pack but we will post on the website some other ideas for activities for home learning as the weeks go by.

We are also working to try to sort out a solution for parents of children who have a daily free school meal and will be in touch as soon as we have.

I plan to try to send out the newsletter every week on a Tuesday as usual. Some of the newsletter will be for the children so please share it with them. We hope to find ways of getting the children to interact with us, probably through the website, and will let you know when we have set something up.

On the third page of this newsletter is a copy of a letter from a Headteacher colleague which I thought I would share. The next few weeks at home are going to be very trying for all families and whilst it is important to have some routines I think the key points in the letter are important to remember. These are unprecedented times they may continue for some time and won't be always be easy I know.

Stay in and stay safe.

Sally Harvey – Interim Headteacher

School Cleaner Wanted!

**We are still looking to appoint an additional cleaner to join our friendly site team. The cleaner is needed out of school hours for about an hour and a half a day, but this can be flexible for the right person.
Please contact the school office or speak to Mrs Harvey if you might be interested.**

Part Time Employment Opportunity School Governing Body Clerks are needed in the local area

The work involves:

- some evening meetings at a local school
- some work from home (access to a computer and the internet needed.)
- Training and support is given
- Minimum Commitment: Six Governing Body meetings per annum

What you get:

- A fair hourly pay rate (inclusive of holiday pay and home working allowance)
- A position which allows a degree of flexible working and is also an important, interesting and much valued role in the UK education system.

Interested in finding out more?

email - laclerks@hants.gov.uk or call Governor Services on 023 80 81482

Knights of the Week!

Well done to last week's Knights of the week.

Kane, Kyra-Lee, Amelia-Rose, Daniel, Jessica, Szymon, Maisie, Charlie, Arwyn, Nicolas, Liam, Lilian, Dean, Vlad, Kara, Cairan

Whilst you are at home you might be inclined to create a minute-by-minute timetable for your children. You may have high hopes of hours of learning, including online activities, science experiments, and book reports. You will plan to limit technology until everything is done! But these are the things I want you to consider...

- Our children are just as scared as we are right now. Our children not only hear everything going on around them, but they feel our constant tension and anxiety. They have never experienced anything like this before. Although the idea of being off school for weeks on end sounds exciting for some, they are probably picturing a fun time like the summer holidays, not the reality of being trapped at home and not seeing their friends.***
- Over the coming weeks, you may see an increase in behaviour issues with your children. Whether it's anxiety, or anger, or protests that they can't do normal things - it will happen. You will potentially see more meltdowns, tantrums, and oppositional behaviour. This is normal and expected under these circumstances.***
- What children need right now is to feel comforted and loved. To feel like it is all going to be okay. That might mean that you need to tear up your perfect timetable and focus on giving them lots of love and attention. I know this may be hard if you have the added pressure of trying to work at home with the children there. Please try to play outside if you have a garden. Bake biscuits and paint pictures. Play board games and watch movies. Do a science experiment together or find virtual field trips of the zoo. Create a fitness circuit in your garden. Start a book and read together as a family. Snuggle under warm blankets and do nothing.***
- Don't worry about them regressing in school. Every single child is in this boat and they all will be okay. When we are back in the classroom, we will focus on their learning and meet their educational needs. Teachers are experts at this! Don't pick fights with your children because they don't want to do any activities. Don't scream at your children for not following the timetable. Don't insist on 2 hours of learning time if they are resisting it. See if you can make learning fun through their play.***

If I can leave you with one thing, it is this: at the end of all of this, their mental health will be far more important than their academic skills. How they felt during this time will stay with them long after the memory of what they did during these weeks is gone. So keep that in mind, every single day.

Take care and stay safe.

Children's Page

Rainbow

The children who were in school on Monday have created a rainbow of hope banner which is now pinned to the fence at the front of the school.

You may be able to see it if you are passing.



Home learning

Children will all have had a home learning pack with some school work that they can do at home. (if you were away on Friday then you will receive your pack this week.)

We know for some children this will be completed very quickly.

Other ideas of things that you can do include...

- Check out your favourite authors with your parents on social media. Lots of them are sharing their books for you to watch and listen to.
- Visit <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary> for lots of great learning resources.

Also keep an eye on the school website www.kejs.org as we adding some more useful links over the coming days.

Year 3 don't forget to water your cress and your sunflowers. You can take pictures of how they are growing!

We would really like to see what you are getting up to at home. Ask an adult to take a picture and send it to us if you are happy to share on the school website!

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