



Wittersham Church of England Primary School
Our school Christian values:

“Respect, kindness, self-worth/perseverance, forgiveness and love”



2nd April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to ‘touch base’ with you all at the point we would have normally been ending Term 4 for our Easter break. I think we are all probably been feeling a bit overwhelmed in recent weeks with the constant influx of changing information and the seriousness of this terrible situation we find ourselves in. I know you will all be adjusting and finding new rhythms in your home lives right now. In education, there is an expectation for schools to provide children with learning they can access at home. I hope that the Learning Projects on our website and the updates we have shared are working well and that you are finding them useful and manageable. We will continue to update the Whole School Information tab with links and ideas under various subject headings which you might find interesting. They include ones for mental and physical well-being. These are posted with the aim of helping those who want them. There is no expectation that you will be ploughing through them all!

I want to say again that we know every child will access home learning in different ways and with different levels of enthusiasm! As little time and guidance as teachers have had to adjust to provide learning opportunities in this way, parents also need time to adjust. If you can try to encourage your children to do some reading and some maths each day and, most days, do a bit of writing we will have a great base to build from when schools open again. However, the last thing we want is for you to feel pressured to try and become teachers in your homes. You are, and always have been, your child’s primary educator. If you decide that your child isn’t going to engage with what we’ve provided and wants to spend the entire day in the garden, or baking, or kicking a ball against a wall, there’s nothing to stress or feel guilty about. Your children will be learning and benefitting hugely from spending time with you. Cooking together, gardening, listen to music, helping with DIY, playing board games, building lego, all have huge value. If children return to us as more independent, able to make their own lunchbox, plan, wash their clothes, be more caring and tolerant then I would say it has been time well spent. I have, this morning, had to show my 19-year-old how to iron so I am speaking from a perspective of wishing I had done these sorts of life-skills earlier 😊

I am sure you would join me in thanking our teachers, teaching assistants, site manager, cleaning team, office team, Midday leaders and kitchen team for their commitment to keeping the school open and running for children of Key Workers. When I asked teachers and TAs to volunteer over the Easter holidays to provide supervision for pupils needing childcare, I was overwhelmed at their positive response. I wasn’t surprised at this dedication but it was extra touching under the current circumstance where we all have concerns over the welfare of our own loved ones.

I am regularly checking my emails so you can continue to contact me on headteacher@wittersham.kent.sch.uk if you have concerns, questions or if you wish to share some lovely news about your children. If you are proud of some home learning your child does then you can post it to Twitter using the hashtag #WittershamLearning and the school Twitter handle which is @WittershamCEP.

If you need me to call you, just email me and I will.

Please try and enjoy this Easter break in the best way you can. Take care and keep safe,

Claire Frost (headteacher)