

GEORGE ROMNEY JUNIOR SCHOOL



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Dear parents, carers and families,

I hope you and your families are safe and healthy at the moment. We are all dealing with the most anxious of times in living memory and I know many children and their families are missing the daily routine of school, seeing friends, playing and learning together. We all miss seeing you each day a great deal.

Last week we set 4 reading comprehensions, spelling activities, English descriptions and story writing and a lowers history task about WWII and an uppers task about the Magna Carta. These should be recorded in your home learning book. Maths activities can be done online as all children are familiar with using Mathletics and TT Rockstars.

As the Easter holidays start next week we will not be setting any more learning until they end. After the holiday we will set a weekly list of tasks, some of which will link to Curriculum Visions, others that don't. As with the activities we set last week, these should be recorded in your home learning book.

Obviously it is important that you spend quality time together reading, playing games and trying to keep some kind of ordinary routine going in these extraordinary times.

On Monday, I met with all the headteachers of the schools in the local area and we are currently in discussion with Cumbria County Council regarding how as a group of schools we can successfully move forward with EMERGENCY CHILDCARE for the children of critical key workers. Obviously, we are expected to put a plan in place which follows the daily updates from the government and so plans are likely to change! This week we have had very few children in school as families have worked really hard to re-organise schedules to ensure that children remain with family members. The reality of the situation is that schools across the area will all struggle to stay open individually as more staff invariably are unable to work due to illness or self-isolation. As from next week, **Monday 30th March**, EMERGENCY CHILDCARE will be offered across the Furness area in 'hub' schools which will be staffed with headteachers, teachers and teaching assistants from the schools within



the area. Although some may feel this is not an ideal situation, it is the best strategic way forward for the children in this area whose families may come to rely on the EMERGENCY CHILDCARE. I will be contacted those key worker families separately to let them know of the arrangements for next week as soon as I possibly can.

During the current period of restricted movement, regular routines for your children are really important and will help you greatly with managing the difficult balance of working from home, children's home learning, shopping, caring for loved ones, keeping in touch with older relatives...the list goes on! Obviously families need to manage these things in the best way that works for them, but please do not worry about completing all the home learning tasks which have been set for this week – use them to give routine and structure for your child but do not make them another source of anxiety!

There are many national and local initiatives that have been launched this week to help with family life in the home, David Walliams' book reading; Joe Wicks PE lessons; a new iPlayer channel for educational programmes as well as our local 'Daily Dance' from Louise Walton on her You Tube channel!

In these uncertain times, many children are drawing, colouring, painting, collaging and creating beautiful rainbows to stick in their windows. This is a lovely idea which will brighten the town and send a happy message of hope to anyone who sees them!

If you would like to email a photograph of some fantastic learning, a beautiful picture, a great dance move or just a fun activity you have done with your child this week then please do so! I will compile these on Friday and post a virtual 'Star Pupil' from all the entries on the George Romney facebook page. Please send your photos to: head@grjs.cumbria.sch.uk

We really hope to see you all soon and wish everyone the best. If there are any questions you would like to ask please feel free to do so via the George Romney Facebook page.

Take care of each other,

The George Romney Staff

