



## In this week's newsletter:

- Assembly
- Times Tables Rockstars
- Spelling Shed

Good morning everyone! I thought I would check in with you and see how everyone is doing after week 2 at home? Trust me, I do feel your pain! It is not easy juggling conference calls, zoom meetings and emails etc. whilst attempting to supervise your children at the same time. I certainly don't envy those of you with very young children who enjoy being up at 5am and require constant entertainment.

It is officially the end of term today and very different to what we would normally experience. The Easter holiday will take place, as scheduled, from Monday 6 April 2020 to Friday 17 April 2020. During this time teachers will not be setting any new school work for the children. Depending on government announcements, learning will re-commence on Monday 20 April 2020.

As the current social isolation restrictions will still be in place during the holiday, it will be a break unlike any we have experienced before. We hope to have some ideas on our website and on our facebook page in the coming days so you can use those to help out during the holidays should you wish.

The school, however, will remain open to children of critical workers for the entirety of the Easter break. Those of you registered as critical workers or who have a vulnerable child will have been contacted directly earlier this week. We would really appreciate your response so that we can plan staffing for that period.



*A rainbow of hope created by the children in school this week*

The DfE are rolling out the national Free School Meal voucher scheme hopefully later this week. As soon as this is released we will be in touch to ensure families registered for this receive the vouchers for after Easter when they kick in.

Staff have been working on the new elearning platform (Seesaw) which we are rolling out to the whole school. Year 5 have already piloted this and the rest of the school will be sent an email with joining details before the new term starts. Teachers will be able to communicate directly with the children and will post work and messages on there to help during this time. Again though, I reiterate, we understand that this is really challenging having online learning for families who have to share devices. So this is not a 3 line whip to get everything done on there, but a tool to help with those needing routine and a way for teachers to keep in touch. You will also receive an email to you and your children from your class teachers with a little personal update from them.

Although we have social distancing for all in place, as a staff community we keep in very close contact. We share good moments, humour and moments when colleagues need support. Sadly we heard at the end of last week that Mrs Cockle's eldest son, Nick (an army officer), had been hit by a lorry. He has luckily survived this trauma but has needed extensive surgery and has a very long road to recovery ahead of him. Due to the current Covid19 situation, Mrs Cockle and her family have not been able to visit him in hospital and are reliant on the fabulous nursing staff to give updates. Please keep the Cockle family in your prayers. The Carroll family too have also had ongoing hospital stays. Baby Shea is now home with an array of monitors.

In the background, the admin team are busy trying to process refunds for trips, visits etc. They will contact those of you due a refund as and when we receive communication and all the mechanisms are in place. As you can imagine this is no easy feat and we are busy contacting providers and submitting insurance claims etc.

During the Easter break, please continue to follow all government guidance to stay at home so as to prevent the spread of the virus and protect the NHS.

I can't impress enough at this time the importance of keeping our children mentally well. The best thing we can do is to show our children how much they are loved and to help build their resilience during difficult times. When speaking with their own grandchildren in the future, our children will remember feeling safe and loved and all of the great things they did as a family; not the online maths lesson.

Keep safe and well everyone.

Kathryn Krynicki  
Headteacher

Dear Parents, Carers, Friends, all Staff and Pupils of Pyrford Church of England Primary School

As we reach the end of this extraordinary Spring term, on behalf of all the Governors of the school, I would like to say an enormous and awesome 'thank you' to everyone who has continued to support the school in these strange circumstances. To Kathryn, the senior leadership team and the amazingly resilient and dedicated team of staff we are so fortunate to have, we cannot thank you enough for the professional and committed way in which you have adapted to these strange times. These circumstances were certainly not something you were taught to cope with in your teacher training and your willingness, adaptability and creativity in continuing to support teaching and learning has been amazing, whether for the large number learning at home or for the small group of children that continue to be supported in school. We are also hugely grateful to our school finance, administration and premises teams who continue to ensure everything is run efficiently and I know are working tirelessly to maintain our systems and processes.

To parents, carers, friends and children, thank you for the way you have also adapted to a different way of learning and communication with the school. We are very excited about the new online learning platform that along with the paper work packs, will help ensure our children continue their pathways to learning. We also hear great stories of many of you finding new resources to help extend our children's learning and experiences. We have seen some great pictures of the wonderful baking and craft work that has been going on, we hear that 'PE with Joe' has also become a bit of an early morning hit with some of you and we even understand that some of our children are actually missing school! We thank you for playing your part in these unusual times which our children will never forget.

For most of us it will not really feel like the start of the Easter holidays at all as the school remains open to care for our vulnerable children and those of key workers and the notion of an actual 'holiday' is no longer possible. We are so grateful for the staff who have volunteered their own free time to support this initiative, another unusual 'ask', we appreciate that your Easter break won't be quite what it might have been.

In these extraordinary times, I assure you that all Governors are kept up to speed with the school's priorities and will do what we can to support the staff, ensure the best opportunities, ideas and resources are available to you and all within the vibrant caring and Christian ethos we are so fortunate to have in our school.

Many thanks to all of you who contribute to the continuing achievements and educational outcomes of our school.

With best wishes.

Julia Lamaison  
Chair of Governors



# Our school: together and apart

## Reflections for 'school' at home: Rainbows



A note for parents and carers:

At school, your child will be used to taking part in collective worship every day (they might call it 'assembly'). This is not the kind of worship that some of you might have been part of in a religious building. In church schools this collective worship is planned to be:

- **Inclusive:** something for children and teachers, of all faiths or of none to be able to join in with
- **Inspirational:** a time in the day to think about the big questions in our lives; an occasion that supports the school community's spiritual development, creates an opportunity to gather around and reflect on a common theme and 'feeds' their inner being;
- **Invitational:** in school, children and teachers are invited to pray, think, or reflect, it is the child's or teacher's choice how they respond.

At this time, many children will be missing the familiar routines of school. One way in which we can help to keep that sense of normality is by offering these resources to schools to share with their school community at home. Please be clear: these ideas are for you to use, adapt, or not use at all. You choose!

We plan to produce these resources for the weeks that schools are 'at home' and would love to know if there's anything that your school community at home would appreciate. You can find our contact details on the [Diocesan website](#).

Jane Whittington & Rachel Boxer

### Theme: Rainbows

- Look at the picture of the rainbow together. You can find it on the next page or using the link [here](#).
- When do we see a rainbow?
- Share memories of rainbows that you might have seen with other people in your home.

### Things to talk about together:

- For many people, a rainbow is a sign of hope – that sunshine will return after the rain.
- Sometimes a rainbow is a picture of the fact that it's possible to find good things even in difficult situations. One hymn writer wrote 'I trace the rainbow through the rain': what do you think these words might mean?
- For people who are Christians, a rainbow is a reminder of God's promises. Do you know any stories from the Bible where God makes a promise?
- All over the world, people have been putting rainbows in their windows to remind each other that we are not alone. It started in Italy, where the virus has kept people in their homes, away from each other for a long time. (There is a photo taken in Guildford on the next page) Why do you think a rainbow is a good symbol to use?

### Things to do together:

- Paint, draw or colour a rainbow to put in your window: many school children are putting rainbows in their windows for others to spot. You might like to use the reflection / prayer activity below as you colour.
- If you go out for a walk together (at a safe distance from other people, of course!), see how many rainbows you can spot in the windows of homes. Wave at the people who live in that home if you can see them or pray for them as you pass by.
- Make a rainbow using a CD and a torch (or a ray of sunshine) It's best to try this in the dark. If you turn the CD over to the side that's got no printing on, you can angle a torch beam to bounce a rainbow around the room. You can watch a clip of how to do it [here](#).

### Things to reflect on or pray about together:

Use the colours of the rainbow to help you think about or pray for people:

**Red is the colour of bravery: pray for or think about those people who are having to be brave at the moment**

**Orange is the colour of waiting: pray or think about having to be patient and wait for things to get back to normal**

**Yellow is the colour of sunshine: be thankful for some good things in your life**

**Green is the colour of growth: pray or think about the people who are growing and producing our food**

**Blue is a peaceful colour: pray for or think about people who are anxious at this time, that they would find peace**

**Indigo is a sad colour: pray for or think about those who are sad or lonely**



Violet is a royal colour, the colour of leaders: pray for or think about the people in our government, that they will make wise decisions



A resource for schools 'at home': Rainbows

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## FREE resources

## Keep learning from where ever you are!

To help you during this difficult time, RE Today is supporting NATRE by providing ALL teachers with resources which they can use and share with parents to support with home learning.

FREE resources will be added on an ongoing basis so please keep checking the site [HERE](#). There are some Easter resources which you might like to use next week.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020 Rock Hero Status has been awarded to:



### UKS2

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Kai Clinch  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Alex Krynicki  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Shalom-Mia Madzingira

### LKS2

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Annie Whyman-Taylor  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Beth Williams  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Muhammad Sadiq-Hussain

**For the biggest improvement in correct answers over the last week. Well done Rock Stars!**

### Top Classes are

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Alder Class  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Larch Class  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Elm Class

Do check into Times Tables Rock Stars as classes have been set tournaments between one another.

Currently...

Elm are beating Maple by almost double points

Alder are beating Birch

Willow are just beating Cherry but are thrashing Rowan

Cherry are beating Rowan

Holly are absolutely slamming Laurel Class!

Keep up the great work everyone! <https://play.ttrockstars.com/ttrs/online>



Well done to all of you who have been practising on Spelling Shed this week. Your teachers will continue to set word lists for you while we are away from school and learning at home - remember to check regularly. Well done to Faghiyah, Emelia, Lauren and Larch Class!

	Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2	Class
1 <sup>st</sup>	Faghiyah Hussain	Emelia Parvin	Lauren Modlock	4 Larch 240,431,374
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Henry Kershaw	Ryan Kershaw	Emilia Fisher	2 Cedar 159,074,653
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Iman Ahmad	Nicole York	Amina Imran	1 Chestnut 108,637,303