

Highfield Update March 24th 2020

HIGHFIELD PRIMARY...WE ARE MORE THAN JUST A SCHOOL

Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families are well and keeping safe. Last night's announcement by the prime minister was, I am sure, a moment in our lives that our children and we will never forget. I know Highfield families will follow the advice seriously for the sake of everyone in our country.

Today we are supporting 16 children of key workers. Thank you so much to them for ensuring that we are only providing emergency care each day. Thank you also for the amazing job you are doing to keep our country safe.

For our other 434 children at home today: Mrs. Colley and all the Highfield staff would like to say hello and we miss you!

The Highfield staff team is currently getting ready for some on line lessons after Easter using a WEBSITE/APP called SEESAW. We are working out the best things to do and use so that you will find the lessons useful and not overwhelming. We all feel a bit overwhelmed at the moment and I think the last thing we should be worrying about over the next couple of weeks is whether our child have learnt their spellings or not. We will not be starting any formal maths and English lessons with the key worker children until after Easter. At the moment we are establishing a nice a routine every day which is working beautifully. This is what it is, you might want to follow it.

Every morning we Keep fit –using P.E. With Joe / The Body Coach - apparently over 900,000 children took part this morning. How's that for a sense of community? We then have a session of playing together with toys and games in class. After a nice long outside playtime we do some more games and activities inside. This morning we are making a giant chalk rainbow on the playground. After our lunch we do some yoga using Cosmic Kids and then we have an afternoon of arts, crafts and relaxing activities. Before home time we sit together and have our story time.

After Easter we will start some morning maths and English lessons using the SEESAW APP so we'll be doing the same lessons in school as the Highfield children can do at home.

So please, slow down, try to relax and concentrate of keeping your children happy. If you start trying to be a super teacher now it will end in tears and tantrums (possibly you not the children!)

Rainbows - Thank you children and parents for all the amazing rainbows I have seen in the windows of houses around school. Sam and Joe – thanks for the photo you sent me of your rainbows too! The things our children will remember 50 years from now won't be the maths or English websites we found for them, but the fact they all felt happy, painted rainbows and went on a walks around their neighbourhoods counting rainbows in the windows of houses.

On the theme of rainbows this week - Why not try writing a poem or story about them? Or if you like finding things out, how about researching them? For those of you with musical talents – can you make up a rainbow song?

Wouldn't it be nice if we could all learn to sing "Somewhere over the rainbow" this week? I am sure we can download it from you tube or Spotify? I know the words because I used to sing it all the time when I was a little girl.

I would love it if at 3 p.m. on Friday, instead of Celebration Assembly, we sit down on the carpets in our living rooms and imagine we are in the school hall. Then imagine me saying 1 2 3 and we all sing "Somewhere over the rainbow". I will be able to hear you all - I promise.

FINALLY On Thursday evening lots of people all over the country are standing on their doorsteps at 8 p.m. to give a round of applause to the front line NHS staff. I will be on my doorstep with The Colley family and I hope you will be too.

Lots of Love
Mrs. Colley