Issue number 2 Summer Term Friday 8th May 2020

Southway Junior School

Learning and Achieving Together

NEWSLETTER



Dear Families

I hope you are all keeping well.

Not surprisingly there is a great deal of discussion on social media and in the press about the challenges faced by parents and children who are engaging in home learning. This is also a key theme regularly discussed at our senior leadership and governor meetings.

Firstly, on behalf of the staff let me firstly thank you for all of the efforts you have made so far. We have seen some brilliant examples of creativity posted on our class pages. Many of the children appear to be thriving thanks to the support they are getting at home. Please keep them coming in. They put a smile on all of our faces.

As a school we understand the challenges posed by the current situation. We all have to be realistic about what can be achieved. Whilst the staff are regularly updating your child's eSchool learning platform we would strongly encourage you to maintain a simple routine and engage as much as is sensible and realistic. If you are finding this difficult for whatever reason I would strongly recommend that you encourage your child to read at the very least. All studies indicate a clear and very strong link between reading, future success and mental well-being.

Try not to worry about your child falling behind (or for that matter, getting ahead). There will be no judgements or crucial assessments when we return and the government have been very clear with schools about that - even teachers struggle with their own children at home when they are not in 'teacher mode' and every family has their own routines. I offer you my congratulations on coping so well so far!

I am delighted to see we have over 160 subscribers to our YouTube channel and if you have the opportunity to visit it you will find we have paid our very own tribute to the inspirational Colonel Tom Moore, in celebration of VE Day. A big thank you to the children who participated, Mrs Parnell for being so creative and Mr Blanchard for being our technical go to person.

Finally I want to sincerely thank all of the parents and children who have come down to the school gate to collect a tag and write such heart warming and kind messages to the staff. I can tell you it has been much appreciated.

Stay safe and take good care.

Mr P Newbold Headteacher



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