



Coombe Bissett Primary

Newsletter 26 (3/4/20)



THANKYOU AND WELL DONE

You are all amazing – and are doing a great job during this challenging time for all. Myself, the staff and governors send to you our love and want to re-assure you...you are not alone, you do not need to do 'loads'. Keep safe.

INFORMATION OVERLOAD

The school is aware there is the danger of information overload for parents at this time. The school is looking to produce a single storage space for parents to access all resources online as well as continuing our weekly drip-feed homelearning emails. We aim to reduce communication but will continue to send out all relevant information to parents as it is better to have the information and read it at your leisure than to be left guessing or to hear mis-information. There is an awful lot of information this week – please take your time to read whichever parts you want to, there is no expectation from us. Moving forwards there will not be.

VALUES FOR LIFE

This week we have all been thinking about one of our core values of BELIEF. Please see Rev. Jenny's wonderful collective worship at https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=5v8G3I9pB_s
A lovely collective worship hymn has been sent out – see the link: <https://www.fischytunes.com/video-repo/bad-times-won-t-last/>. We would love to hear from you, via the office@coombbissett.wilts.sch.uk about your thoughts and reflections on BELIEF.

To continue our Diary of Reflection we would like every child to complete the following (but of course this is only optional) and send a picture of it in to office@coombbissett.wilts.sch.uk

This can be one of the tasks for the optional Easter Holiday pack that will be emailed out at the start of Easter.

1. Draw a picture of themselves
2. Write their thoughts about any or all of the following:
 - Lent – what special things they have been giving up during this period
 - Holy Week – their thoughts about what the Easter story can teach us during this period
 - Easter – using ideas from the Easter Booklet donated by the Parish – see your special packs to be delivered

Finally, see our home worship timetable for Easter and Term 5 – emailed out today. Again, this is optional.

PSHE - SUPPORTING WELLBEING DURING HOMELEARNING

As you know, it is our view that parents and children should be placing equal amount of attention focusing on their wellbeing during this unprecedented period. Please remember that anything we issue is optional – you can choose to only do some of it, or to do other things. This is why we have taken the decision to 'drip feed' homelearning in weekly amounts; why we have placed such emphasis on PE, PSHE, creative tasks and mindfulness; why we have forwarded key documents such as 'Looking after yourself'; as well as advising parents not to have too high expectations. The details below have been added to the very large list of *40 additional homelearning* suggestions issued following a request for these, but we felt it was important to signpost the following resources themselves:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/improve-mental-wellbeing/>

<https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/here-for-parents>

<https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/harolds-daily-diary>

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Email the school at admin@coombbissett.wilts.sch.uk

Call the school on 01722 718380

FRENCH RESOURCES – COURTESY OF MRS LATTER

A HUGE thankyou to Mrs Latter who has created some French Resources for homelearning as she is a French Teacher. These are terrific and we hope you have lots of fun using them. You are a star Mrs Latter!

SCHOOLING FOR VULNERABLE / KEY WORKERS

Please see the document regarding keeping everyone safe when being schooled (entire protection). Coombe Bissett will be open for these category children during the Easter Holiday period, excluding bank holidays.

REMINDER

Please can all vulnerable/key worker children email the school only on office@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk on a regular (daily/weekly) basis to inform the school of (non)attendance. This is to support staff safety so that they do not need to make unnecessary journeys if not needed.

OPTIONAL EASTER HOLIDAY PACK

We have aimed to keep the activities free from 'worksheets' to support those children unable to download / print at home. This will replace the weekly homelearning sent home by teachers for these 2 weeks of the Easter Holiday period. **Please feel free to pick and choose or simply not do any of the tasks to protect wellbeing.** The school is required to be open during the holiday period for any keyworker / vulnerable category child (unless parents choose to keep at home for their safety, and the safety of others) and so any child attending will follow these packs.

WILTSHIRE CHILDREN'S NEWSLETTER

Wiltshire Local Education Authority will be producing a weekly children's newsletter. It is attached to the emails.

HOMELEARNING & HOMEWORK

A huge thankyou to all those who have engaged with the *weekly homelearning* and thankyou for your understanding that teachers will not all be able to send out homelearning at the same time/same day, and that teachers are not expected to respond within 24hrs (see previous guidance). **And another huge thankyou to all those who have been supporting each other on their WhatsApp groups with ideas for activities at home.** To repeat previous guidance, please avoid using the *CGP homework booklets* other than for the tasks issued by teachers each week. Teachers plan these ahead and they will not be able to offer alternative homework. Last week we sent out documents suggesting *further homelearning* and *Learning Logs* both providing homelearning ideas beyond the weekly homelearning tasks. We also sent out those generated by Wiltshire – see the link <http://rightchoice.wiltshire.gov.uk/Page/16934>. All of these can be used by parents who have finished the homelearning for the week and want guidance on other things that they could do.

This week, following a few requests, all staff have given even more additional time producing **40 additional homelearning ideas, PPTs, Curriculum Maps.**

FOLOWING OUR COMMITMENT TO PARENT / PUPIL AND STAFF MENTAL HEALTH PLEASE DO NOT FEEL ANY NEED TO DO ANY OF THESE – THEY ARE SIMPLY THERE IF YOU WANT TO, AND THERE ARE ACTUALLY SOME LOVELY FUN NON-ACADEMIC IDEAS.

Our strategy for supporting parents is extensive and is detailed below - please note that we will NOT be issuing additional items upon request:

- Continuing with the weekly homelearning email from teachers following the 'expectations & guidance'
- Issuing other ideas for parents to do such as: *Learning Logs*, the links and ideas on right choice (previously issued on paper), *further learning*, **40 additional homelearning ideas**
- Issuing *PPTs* as a tick-list for parents and basic *Curriculum Maps* (please be aware teachers may deviate from these due to homelearning) who want to know they are covering the core curriculum
- Issuing further physical resources such as an *English and Maths exercise book* for recording for those who do not have paper / printer at home – these should last till the summer holidays
- Issuing a *Phonics or Grammar booklet* (year group dependant), *Book 2 Reading Comprehension* homework tasks, and a *Targeted Maths* booklet, as well as booklets for those on P-Scales. These additional booklets are for **parents to work through at their own pace – ideally following the weekly homelearning email but do not worry if not. Teachers will not be referencing these pages.**

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PRAYER BOOKS

We would like to keep a record of prayers made by children at this time. If your child would like to write a prayer following the suggestions on the Home Worship timetable please could they draw a lovely picture as a 'background' and write a prayer over it (going over it in pen so the words stand out) and then email a picture of it to office@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk so we can collate it.

STAFF CHANGES

I am sad to announce that Mrs Penman will be leaving us at the end of Term 4 as her maternity leave cover contract finishes with the return of Mrs Pascoe in Term 5. Mrs Penman joined us in May last year to cover the maternity leave vacancy in Ash Class on a Thursday and Friday. She has been a key part of the outcomes and development of the older children in the school and will be greatly missed. I am delighted to say that she has secured another position and begins straight away at the start of Term 5 at her new school. I am sure you will all join with myself, the staff and governors in wishing her all the best in her new job.

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