



Coombe Bissett Primary

Newsletter 30 (15/5/20)



URGENT PARENT RESPONSE REQUIRED

We are in the process of finalising our RETURN PLAN for June 1st, when YR, Y1 and Y6 will be able to join vulnerable and keyworker children at school. The Govt have advised all schools to ask parents in these groups to inform the school if they are planning on sending their child in to school on that date. But we know that parent's minds may change / evolve over the next two weeks, so we don't expect you to give a definitive answer.

So, although we know you may change your minds over the next 2 weeks if you are in these groups, please can you email the school office ONLY to confirm if your child will be returning or not returning on 1st June. Even if it is to say 'we don't know'. I will ask you next week as well.

We have not received any 'wondering questions' / prayers / reflections to help Rev Jenny prepare the worship for next week. **If you child has any they want to share please email the school office email only by 12noon Saturday and Rev Jenny works on the worship on Sunday.**

RETURN TO SCHOOLING FOR YR/Y1/Y6 JUNE 1st

Rest assured - we know as much as you at present – we are told when you are told. Guidance can be found here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-educational-and-childcare-settings-to-prepare-for-wider-opening-from-1-june-2020>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preparing-for-the-wider-opening-of-schools-from-1-june/planning-guide-for-primary-schools#annex-c-posters>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-vulnerable-children-and-young-people#attendance-expectations-and-encouraging-attendance>

We know that social distancing in Primary schools is complicated at best. We are still awaiting further guidance from the Govt and from the LA as to how to make this safe and practicable. Unions are meeting today with scientists to explore options and at the time of writing this newsletter no information was available – this may have changed by this evening of course!

We have completed plans ourselves but need to double check against the further guidance / clarity. We will let you know next week in the RETURN PLAN which will give details. But until then, the basics for Coombe Bissett as we understand them at the time of production of this document (Friday 15/5/20 morning) are:

- The science tells us young children are less at risk – but the staff are not – so whilst PPE is not 'needed' our staff may personally choose to wear it to protect themselves and their families
- Social distancing to be followed as far as possible – children will have their own station for all times (including lunch), playtimes/lunchtimes will be socially distanced as well
- Hygiene routines will be rigorously applied frequently throughout the day
- If anyone in your household has symptoms then self-isolate and do not come to school

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- Follow shielding guidance looking closely at definitions of clinically extremely vulnerable– we have 3 members of staff who will not be released from this guidance until July (and that may change)
- No parent will be penalised for their child's non attendance
- I have already informed you that there will be no-school uniform to ease the pressure on parents
- School timetables will change (including play and lunch) – parent drop-off / pick-up routines will change
- Pupils will be in groups throughout the day and will not be interacting with other groups to minimise cross-contamination at any time (play, snack, lunch, worship, PE)
- There will be very little resources for children so as to minimise the risk of cross-contamination and enable the maximum allowed number in rooms, pupils will have their own set of resources and cannot share with others – this is in their 'room' and also at playtimes (play and lunch) and for PE as well
- If symptoms are shown in school then the child / adult will be isolated until they can go home and testing will be offered to all exposed – then self-isolation rules apply (7 days for the individual, 14 days household)
- We will provide packed lunches for FSM, KS1 who want it, KS2 who pay for it

VALUES FOR LIFE

This week we have all been thinking about one of our core values of BELIEF through thinking about doing things without bargaining, thinking about art 'signs' and our diaries of reflection. We hope that you have all enjoyed the you tube worship from Rev. Jenny <https://youtu.be/5ScUFsLDUWE>. Next week we will be reflecting on the core value of BRILLIANCE and the collective worship from Rev Jenny will be based on the 'wondering questions' from this whole term from the children. **Please send these to the school office email so Rev Jenny can prepare the worship. If there are any reflections, prayers or artwork parents wish to send in to be shared with others please can you send to the school office email office@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk**. Remember, doing so is another lovely way of helping us all to feel a little more connected during this time.

HOMELEARNING - A REVIEW

Governors have asked staff to review our provision on homelearning.... **However, since then the govt announced it's 'road map' and now all will change as a result!**

- For the next week homelearning will continue as normal (see below).
- For the half term there will be optional suggested half term activities – just as there was at Easter.
- The government advice to schools now recognises that once RETURN happens on 1st of June there will inevitably be a reduction in the amount of 'directed' homelearning and feedback. This is simply because staff will not have the hours available to teach their full commitment in class (according to the social distancing and shielding guidelines) and also deliver such detailed learning and feedback as we have been for those who are homelearning. All schools are struggling with this even with a full compliment of staff available – we do not have this 'luxury'.
- The government has also recognised that for a period of time EHCPs for SEN children will not be able to be fully met due to virus.

However, rest assured we will do all that is possible to find a solution that works well for all children and staff. There are great educational tools out there such as the national Oak Academy (an online teaching tool set up for all schools across the country) and we will continue to provide all the wonderful range of subscription websites. Our solution is likely to focus on directed homelearning for core subjects. But for the non-core subjects we will signpost you to learning opportunities. We have already begun this approach with the wider aspects we provide such as PE challenges, worship ideas, PSHE lessons, Computational lessons (see below), the new Thinkers Keys (see below), Outdoor Learning (see below), and of course the 20 additional ideas, the 40 further ideas and the learning logs.

WILTSHIRE CHILDREN'S NEWSLETTER & WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

Each week Wiltshire produce a children's newsletter, please find it attached to this email. Each week we forward a 'zip-file' of homelearning ideas for current affairs produced by 'Picture News' an additional service we subscribe to during this period to support children and parents, please find it attached to this email.

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SCHOOLING FOR VULNERABLE / KEY WORKERS

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 attendance or non attendance. This is to support staff safety so that they do not need to make unnecessary journeys if not needed. **If we do not receive an email and your child turns up for schooling it is highly likely to be the case that there will not be anyone at school for them.**

THINKERS KEYS

Please see attached to the email the 'Thinkers Keys' document. This is based on excellent research into developing thinking skills and is used in many schools. I have used these for the last 15yrs+ in schools – to good effect. The document explains the 20 different 'thinkers keys' (the 'ways of thinking'). Then it lists 13 themes of focus, giving a task for each of the 20 keys, taking us all the way through to September, even through holidays if you want. **You don't need to do any of them – they are 'optional'. You don't need to do all 20 keys each week...choose the one(s) you like. You don't need to do them in the holidays.**

It would be great to see share examples with others. If you are happy to share please send yours in to the school office email... office@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk we would love to see them, parents ideas too – it is fun!

Themes are as follows:

Term / week	w/b date	Theme
T5 W5	18/5/20	The Environment
Half term	25/5/20	Australiana
T6 W1	1/6/20	Outer Space
T6 W2	8/6/20	Under the Sea
T6 W3	15/6/20	Transport
T6 W4	22/6/20	Food
T6 W5	29/6/20	Dinosaurs
T6 W6	6/7/20	Christmas
T6 W7	13/7/20	Communities
T6 W8	20/7/20	Sport
Summer Hols W1	27/7/20	Animals
Summer Hols W2	3/8/20	The Future
Summer Hols W3	10/8/20	Design your own
Summer Hols W4	17/8/20	Design your own – a different one
Summer Hols W5	24/8/20	Design your own – a different one

COMPUTING CURRICULUM – HOME LEARNING ACTIVITIES

For those of you who would like their child to explore directed / taught computational thinking please use the activities on the BAREFOOT website link:

https://www.barefootcomputing.org/homelearning?utm_source=2nd+Content+Launch+Data+Send&utm_campaign=ff16a1e7b5-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2nd+Content+launch+send&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_80a593cad9-ff16a1e7b5-30250568

Teachers will not be issuing weekly tasks from these, or instructional videos – the content of the website itself is clear enough and parents / children can easily choose the activities that inspire them personally. The support you may need is also on the website – the content of the activities having been designed this way.

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM DAY – THURSDAY 21ST MAY

This year at Coombe Bissett we have committed ourselves to increasing outdoor learning – joining in with the movement 'outdoor classroom day'. The summer term outdoor classroom day is Thursday 21st May. If we were in a normal schooling position we would be holding an outdoor classroom day set of activities as we have done.

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So...teachers would like to encourage you to go onto the website <https://outdoorclassroomday.org.uk/> choose an activity and then do that activity if you can on Thursday 21st May. In line with our approach of reducing anxiety we are not setting the activity or setting the time. Whatever works for you will be best! We hope you enjoy and we hope to see pictures of it sent to office@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk to share.

RE THIS WEEK

RE this term has been to complete the National challenge 'Spirited Arts' – some examples are below. This last week of term the RE lesson for every class across the school focuses on 'Ascension' – which in the calendar is Thursday 21st. The activities suggested are aimed at encouraging outdoor learning – fitting in nicely with the outdoor learning day. We would love to see some of your creative work at the end of this lesson. Email these to office@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk if you would like to share them.

RETURN TO SCHOOLING – A 'SWAN' APPROACH

With our focus on wellbeing of pupils in our school, our vision of 'soar on wings like eagles, run and not grow weary, walk and not be faint', and our core values of 'Care, Commitment, Creativity, Belief, Bravery, Brilliance' we have decided to adopt the 'SWAN' acronym developed by Dr Pooky Knightsmith from Creative Education for our approach to returning to school. This is entirely within the guidelines for schools laid down by the government, and even if it wasn't, IT IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

Safe
Welcoming
All together
Nurturing.

Safe

We want you and your child to feel safe, calm and re-assured, and to know that it will be okay to come back to school. So we are already working on creating an environment and timetable that is and feels physically and emotionally safe for all of us, even though it will be different from the one they will have left on March 19th. We want to build up predictability and consistency around hygiene and other safety rules which school staff will role-model noticeably, and praise your child for following accordingly. We will support any child through any misunderstandings and refer to the benefits of what we are doing.

Welcoming

When the children return, we want them to feel excited and happy coming into school and we want them to know that we have really missed them and are delighted to have them back. They will need to know that they belong, and feel a part of things and we will do everything we can to enable this. For Y6, part of this will be aimed at supporting their transition through encouraging their readiness for Secondary school as well as celebrating the amazing legacy they will have left us all.

All Togetherness

So, how can we create these warm, welcoming feelings of care and nurture when we can't touch and need to keep a safe distance? We need to create a truly inclusive environment in which the children feel surrounded by support, and know that they can rely on all the adults around them and that we are all reinforcing the same messages and sense of togetherness.

Nurturing

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Recent research conducted at Reading University highlights the importance of allowing the children time and space to play and to re-connect socially with their peers. A key point is to play the long game here, and not rush ahead with trying to make up for lost time or to add intense academic pressure and stress to the children, some of whom are already in a high alert state.

Wellbeing is our key driver

Wellbeing is our key driver – not academic catch-up. Once children feel ok, they will catch-up over time, no matter what the media has been scare-mongering! So we will be doing the right thing, and giving them the time. Whilst we will deliver academic learning and the curriculum, we will also focus on settling them in, wellbeing (social and emotional), creativity, physical health, expressing our shared experiences, adapting to our various different experience, being open with our feelings, and their readiness to learn.

To help, as you already know, we will have NON-SCHOOL UNIFORM every day in school for the rest of the academic year.

Every child at Coombe Bissett is celebrated for their uniqueness – but this ‘Covid generation’ of children are going to be distinctly unique from other generations for a period of time. We want to enable them to flourish - this will not be an overnight job.

How can we help as parents?

Carry on with what you are doing – you are doing a great job! We can see it in the messages and homelearning you send us.

It is all too easy to focus on what we are not doing, what we could be doing better. Try not to do this too much – try to focus on what you are doing. We are all doing so much, so many wonderful things for the children in Coombe Bissett.

Your child might have a particular worry about returning to school that can be addressed at home. Playing together may be your best way of identifying what their concerns are. They often play and draw what they are thinking about. With older children talking can be easier through a shared activity like walking the dog or baking a cake. Remember children are sponges – they learn so much through observation – and this includes worries as well as skills and attitudes. They can pick these up and internalise them from others. Modelling not being worried will help. Further - exploring a ‘bag of worries’, realising some worries are not really worries after all, realising some worries should not be ours but are for others to solve, realising that some things we cannot control and so should not worry about them, these are all good activities. Practising these skills is actually a good life skill, for all of us.

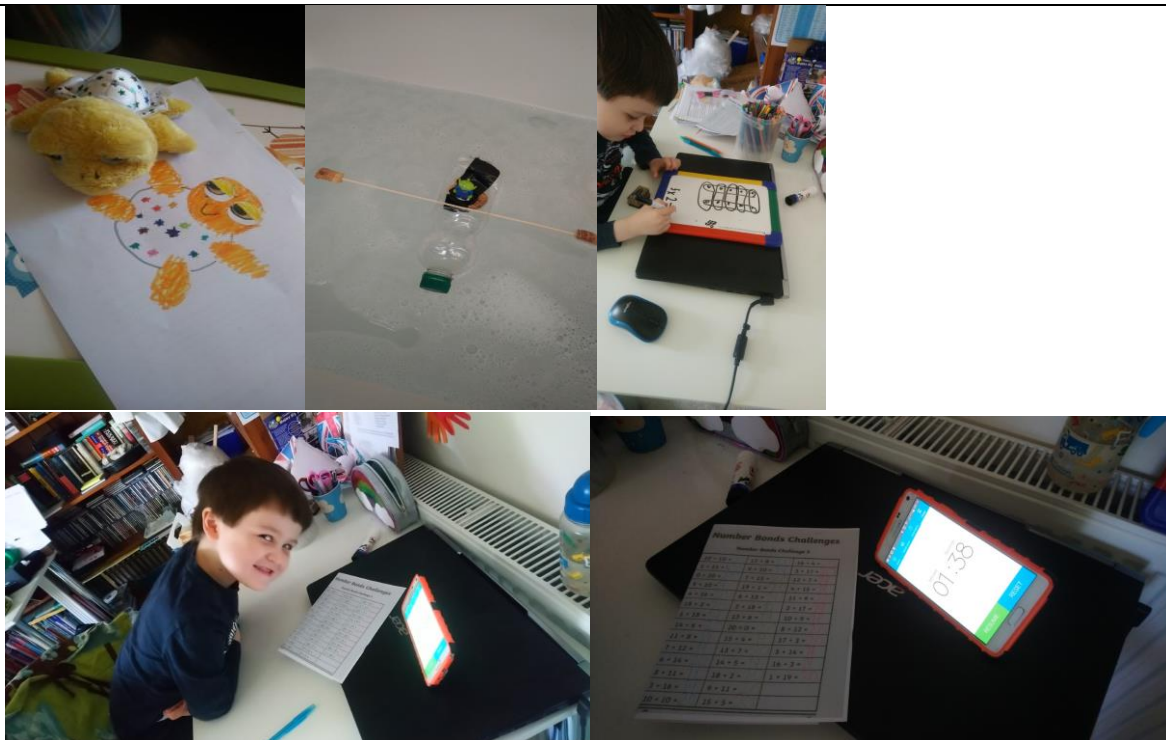
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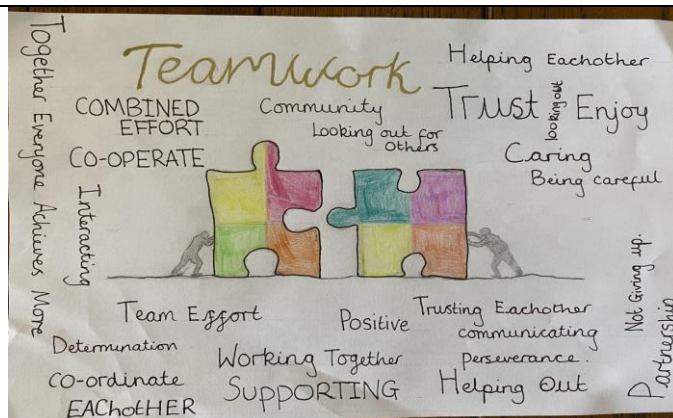
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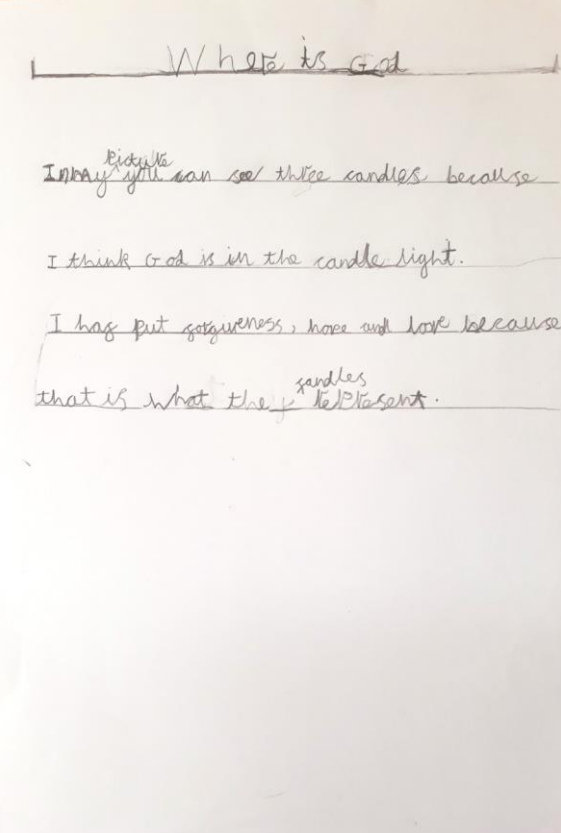


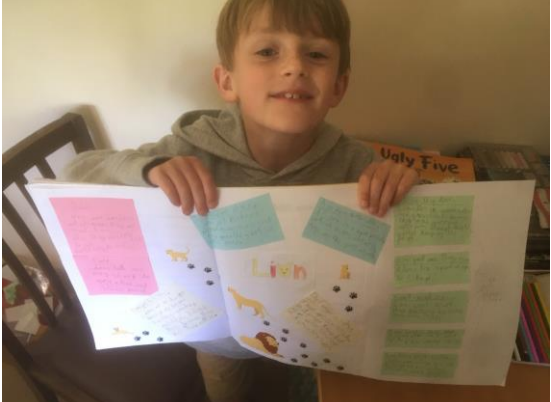
Eadric's
super art,
highly
creative
solution
for a boat,
and
excellent
daily
maths



Rosie's
very
mature
writing
and
fabulous
'logo' for
the art for
the
National



<p>RE challenge.</p>	<p><u>Teamwork</u></p> <p>I have been investigating the words 'coming together' and 'teamwork' because at the moment especially, we should all be caring for others as well as ourselves.</p> <p>These words link to the bible because of the story 'Jesus Heals a Paralytic' where all 4 men come together to help a paralyzed man and carry him all the way to Jesus which shows teamwork because if one of them wasn't there they wouldn't have got him to Jesus.</p> <p>In my picture you can see two men pushing two puzzle pieces together to complete the puzzle and teamwork is when everyone helps things can get done quicker and is better.</p> <p>I hope people will notice that to get through things we all need to help each other and not just ourselves.</p> <p>The most important thing about my work is how it relates to what is going on in the world and how we can help each other.</p> <p>To make my artwork what I did was looked around me and saw how everyone is try to help each other due to the current situation of coronavirus this is also why I chose this title.</p> <p>This has helped me to realise that teamwork can help with anything.</p> <p>I've tried to show my ideas and feelings by putting all the words around which I think are to do with teamwork and coming together.</p> <p>I like this theme because there is a lot to it and together everyone achieves more.</p>
<p>Zach's challenge to the world thoughts and artwork for the modern ark – for the National RE challenge</p>	<div data-bbox="285 1001 906 1461">  </div> <div data-bbox="1094 1001 1338 1058"> <p><u>The Holy Modern Ark</u> <u>Zach Taylor</u></p> </div> <div data-bbox="932 1089 1500 1604"> <p>I chose this title, 'Holy Modern Ark,' because global warming is affecting the world by melting the ice and flooding the land. We might need an ark again to save everyone, including the animals. I've been investigating rivers and how global warming affects them and the people who live there. In my picture, you can see God steering the ark to safety with all the animals on board. I hope people will notice that my ark is a modern yacht because the threat is now. I like the theme I have been working on because I'm thinking about the animals and I want them to be safe. This work has helped me to realise that global warming is a big problem that we need to take action on. I think my work connects to religion because it's about God and all the animals. What I like best about my work is that all the animals are safe together.</p> </div>

<p>Bella beautifully lights up what is important – for the National RE challenge</p>		
<p>Ted's magnificent creative sunflower plate weaving</p>		
<p>Ted's great project on 'one of the big five' going above and beyond teacher expectation</p>		

Florian's
amazing
science
poster –
truly
impressive



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