



HT Update for Parents 26.03.20

Hello everyone!

Hope everybody is feeling as positive as they can during this difficult time and that those of you who are feeling poorly at home are beginning to feel perkier! And those families with children at home are settling into a new 'normal'. Routine is important for us all, so it is a good idea to try to establish some sort of 'Home School' time within the children's day. I think that the sunshine has brightened our spirits and hopefully you are all taking government advice and having a walk in the sunshine (practising social distancing of course) or enjoying a bit of unexpected gardening – the children will love that!

I will try to put up a quick HT update on the Parents area of the Longwill website every other day – although, some days the message might be shorter and other days longer!

So, please do try to master this new way of communicating. If you're finding it tricky, then go on google and search for 'help on...' pages. There is lots of support out there. Alternatively, there's WhatsApp, Messenger, Facebook etc for those everyday chats. However, do please remember all those e-safety messages if you are allowing your children access to these platforms.

We are working on a Facebook presence. This will enable teachers to have a face to face link with both you and your children, but from a school account. As you know, we would not ever use personal Facebook accounts with children. However, we think this might be a good way forward if we are using a school account and using a technology which most of you will be familiar. So watch this spot!

Here is some more information:

- Your teachers will have made contact with you all by now (probably more than once and in more than one way). We will continue to use our parent text, email and website to keep in touch with you all as best we can.
- You should expect to hear from your teachers at least once a week and some families should expect even more remote contact. We are hoping to set up some sort of Facebook 'school' with all pupils over the next week or so. There are some technical issues to overcome first, so please bear with us. Once we are ready to go, we will be in touch. Hopefully, this will mean that your children can have some contact directly with their teacher (with you present of course).
- Please do keep in touch with us. We would love to see photos of children's work, which we will upload to our showcase page and pupils section on the front page of the website. They will love to have their moment of glory online and it will really be great for children to see their friends as well. As usual, we would never publish the child's name online, please be assured of that.
- Also, have you seen the Joe Wicks 9:00am PE Slot? This will be great for the children. I had heard the RAD might be doing a signed version and I will let you know if I track it down.
- We are creating resources for sign graphics and we are happy to create vocabulary resources for you around any theme. Please just send your teachers a list of the vocab you want and we can do the rest.

- Please keep sending us any photos of your child's home learning – it will all get uploaded – hopefully in a slideshow type format.

Here are a few of the photos you have sent already. Please do keep them coming. In the meantime, I wish you all the best and hope that you are all managing to keep positive during this time. Please know that all the staff are working hard to support their pupils and you as their parents and family. We are all trying to create the very best out of this sad situation and are thinking about you all at this time. I will upload another message tomorrow afternoon at a similar time.

Kind regards,

Alison Carter

Mrs Alison Carter
Headteacher

