



Headteacher Newsletter

Believe in yourself, Value others, Be proud of your achievements, Smile, Shine, Be happy.



Welcome to the April Newsletter. This all feels very bizarre, as I write we are now two thirds of the way through our academic year with only the Summer term to go.

The past few weeks have seen some significant changes in the way that we are able to learn, with the majority of children now learning from home during this period of time that we find ourselves in. We were extremely lucky that we foresaw a lot of this coming and were already well planned for the lockdown to come into force and have been able to ensure that both our children, families and staff were able to stay safe during this uncertain time.

As you will all know, we have been opening the school for key worker families who have been unable to arrange any other arrangements for their childcare. We have followed strict guidance from the Government and altered our in school practice to keep both our key worker pupils and staff safe. Can I, with all this in mind, take a moment to say a huge thank you to my incredible team that we have here at Southfields. There have been numerous staff who have volunteered to support the frontline key worker pupils here in school and ample more who are working tirelessly from home to keep you all updated and send suggested learning tasks for those who wish to complete them. We are a very special family here, and I know you will all join me in thanking them all when we are able to return in the future.



Following on from this, it is the Easter break from tomorrow until 20th April. During this time we will remain open for key workers and some of our wonderful staff will be supporting with this on a rota. However to ensure that you all have a break, and the staff do too, we will not be continuing to send out learning during the two week period. Please, if you would like to continue with your routines and would like to carry on with your learning by all means do. Continue to send me pictures of what you are up to, it really makes me smile. However I do feel it is extremely important that the whole staff do get their deserved breaks too so would really appreciate your support with this also. Many of them, I know, will continue to Dojo throughout but please do not expect responses as I have told them all to rest unless they are in school.

Last week the theme was rainbows and I believe this week it is sunshine :) please continue to spread the joy and paint, draw, colour, collage and create a sunshine to display in your windows at home for other families to spot on their one journey out a day. Please continue to share these with us. They have brightened up our days.



It is at times like these that you realise what is truly important in life, and that is family. I watched a video the other day and it really made me think - maybe you saw it too. It was surrounding this time in our lives and how although this has been thrust upon us and is a scary time, it is also a time to treasure as we will never get these opportunities again to spend quality time together making positive memories, learning together and remembering that together we can all make a difference. If I can ask you all, regardless of how long this continues for, that you will all try to be kind to one another, be thankful for each new day and remember to tell your loved ones how much they mean to you. Make silly videos and play together to make some happier memories. Do not worry too much about all the learning, if you can do some then great :) but do not put too much pressure on yourselves as you all need to remain well too.

Mental health is just as important during these times, so remember to take time to relax, read a book, listen to music, colour or do whatever it is that makes you feel at peace.



Throughout these past few weeks and prior, we have tried to keep families as up to date as we possibly can via Class Dojo. I notice that a very small minority of parents are still not connected and that really worries me. If you haven't been able to connect (anyone with parental responsibility is able to connect) please email the school office and we will get a link out to you to activate your account. This has been a god send for us and I am not sure where we would have been without this fantastic resource. We will continue to use this platform as we move forwards and will, as much as possible, keep the website updated too.

Yesterday, Mrs King and I were doing some virtual interviews ready for next year. We are very happy with our new appointments and look forward to sharing news about these in the coming months. As you will all be aware, today we say a happy farewell to Miss Nicholson who moves onto a new challenge at the City of Peterborough Referral Unit. On behalf of the children and staff I would just like to say a huge thank you for all of your efforts, support and kindness. We wish you all the very best for your future career. Keep in touch and come and visit often! It feels very strange that we haven't been able to do this in person but send lots of virtual hugs from all of the children and staff too.



Looking forward to the Summer term, we don't know at the moment when we will be able to return to some form of normality and until this point we will continue to set online learning tasks for you all to complete at home. We will update using Class Dojo and hope that very soon we will be hearing more positive news in the fight against COVID-19 and will be returning to school soon. We will continue to have a skeleton staff in school to support the key workers of our school community and also the remaining staff will support you from home. Can we remind parents that they should only use this provision if it is absolutely necessary as our staff are putting themselves and their own families at risk to be here supporting your families. Once again I thank them all.

Here are a few visual reminders for you:

Practise social distancing

Self-isolate with cough or fever

Wash hands regularly

List of 'key workers'

The frontline workers will be allowed to send their kids to school as Britain fights coronavirus

NHS staff
Social care workers
Schools and nurseries
Police officers
Court staff
Religious staff
Journalists
Some government staff
Delivery workers
Supermarket staff
Army and MoD
Firefighters
Prisons and probation
Transport workers
'Infrastructure' inc gas & electric
Some financial services

Key Worker Definitions

+ Health and social care

Doctors, nurses, midwives, paramedics, social workers, care workers, and other frontline health and social care staff including volunteers. Office staff supporting the NHS and those in the health and social care supply chain, including producers and distributors of medicines and medical equipment

Education and childcare

All nursery and teaching staff, social workers and specialist education professionals supporting schools and students

Key public services

All nursery and teaching staff, social workers and specialist education professionals supporting schools and students

Local and national government

Any council worker or civil servant working on the coronavirus response - and any delivering essential public services such as the payment of benefits, housing, education and social care

Food and essential goods

Those involved in food production, processing, distribution, sale and delivery as well as those making or distributing key goods such as hygiene supplies and animal medicines.

Utilities, communication, financial services

999 and 111 call handlers, financial services staff in banks, building societies and markets, people in the oil, gas, electricity and water sectors and those in key IT and data infrastructure jobs. Staff working in the civil nuclear, chemicals and telecommunications sectors. Postal staff, payments providers and waste disposal companies.

Public safety and national security

Police and support staff, Ministry of Defence civilians, contractor and armed forces personnel, fire and rescue service employees, National Crime Agency staff, those maintaining border security, prison and probation staff and national security roles.

Transport

Those who keep the UK's air, water, road and rail passenger and freight transport network operating such as drivers, pilots and engineers.

STAY AT HOME

PROTECT THE NHS

save lives

Thank you to our other Key Workers

I think now more than ever we must be so thankful for the amazing work that our NHS does not only during these difficult times, but all the time in keeping our families safe and well. Many of the people who work for the NHS are putting themselves and their own families at risk by working on the frontline. Southfields thank you all for your incredible service.



Alongside these very important workers, we have those who are also now working on the frontline to ensure our supermarkets can continue to provide food and the rest of our community is safe in the form of our other emergency services and carers. Once again, thank you for your service and support for our community.

I think when everything begins to return to normal, we should all ensure that those who have continued to keep us all safe are recognised for their efforts. We applaud you all.

Happy Easter Everyone

Usually at this time of year we have visits from our favourite 🐰, our Easter services and lots of family events such as our Easter BINGO. I hope that you are all able to replicate some of the memories we would have been making at home and that a special bunny also comes to see you all in your homes too and maybe leave a little treat for you all...mums and dads too! Can I take this opportunity, on behalf of all of the staff, to say a very Happy Easter to you all and hope that you all have a wonderful few weeks together. Stay safe and hope to see you all soon...even if it is virtually :)

A short Easter Story to share

One evening, Jesus went with His disciples to pray in a garden outside the city of Jerusalem. Suddenly a group of soldiers came. They arrested Jesus and took Him away.



Jesus was condemned to die, even though He had done nothing wrong. Jesus died as a gift of His love for each and every one of us.

After Jesus died, His body was buried in a tomb. A big stone was rolled in front of the entrance of the tomb.

But the story doesn't end there: Three days later a wonderful miracle happened. Angels appeared and rolled away the stone! Some women who were Jesus' friends came to visit Jesus' tomb. But when they looked inside the tomb, Jesus' body was gone! "Do not be afraid," the angels told them. "Jesus is not here. He has risen from the dead!" Jesus' friends were so happy! They quickly went away to tell the disciples.

Later that evening the disciples were gathered together...when suddenly Jesus appeared to them! Jesus stayed with the disciples for a while and taught them many things. They were happy to have Jesus with them again.

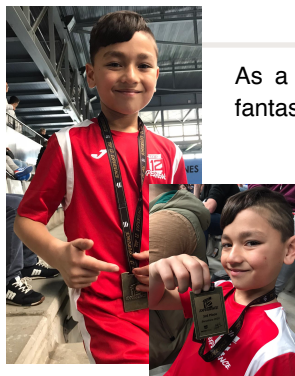


Soon Jesus needed to return to His Father in heaven. He told His disciples, "Go and tell everyone in the world the good news about Me. And don't worry," Jesus added. "I will always be with you in spirit!" Then, right before their eyes, Jesus returned to heaven to be with His Father—God!

Every Easter we celebrate Jesus' resurrection, and the wonderful gift of salvation Jesus gave us through His death. Jesus lives!



March WOW Moments!



As a school we try to recognise not only amazing things that happen in school, but the fantastic achievements that children achieve outside of school. This month can we all say a huge well done to Cameron who was selected to represent England in the 2020 Top12 Futsal Cup which took place in Barcelona. The team finished at an amazing 3rd place losing in the semi final to USA who were 2nd to first place Brazil. It sounds as though Cameron had an absolutely incredible experience, meeting other children from around the world and even swapping shirts with one of the USA team too. Congratulations Cameron, we are sure this will not be the last time we hear about your fantastic achievements in sports :)



BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL

Nevaeh, Tegan, Lucas, Azalia, Rebekah, Ruby, Michal, Piotr, Alan, Lucy, Millie, Edward, Elliott, Laura, Mazin, Eva, Charlie, Riccardo, Kacey-Leigh, Evan, Brooke, Tymon, Harry, Dashel, Ethan, Sian, Lucious, Joe, Sebastian, Luke, Riley, Harvey, George, Yashi, Lexi, Harmony-Rose, Oliver, Farah, Alexander, Jenson, Levi, Sienna-Rae, Charlie, Isabella, Diaras, Adas, Brentley and Brodie.

Happy birthday everyone!

