

Yox Valley Partnership



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Newsflash –29th April 2020

Dear All,

I trust you are all keeping well and staying safe. Sometimes it feels like time has flown by and I can't believe school has been closed nearly 6 weeks already; then at other times it feels like forever since we heard the sound of laughter in the playground. I know all the staff are really missing seeing everyone and we are all finding different ways of communicating with each other whilst still keeping the social distancing - we are all part of one big team.

I think some people have found it harder to get motivated with the home-learning since the Easter break; don't worry, this is normal. Trying to get into a routine helps and I know of some families that put on their school uniform, or just their sweatshirt, to help get them in the right mind set - but that's not compulsory! We are trying different ways of engaging with your children and even if they just do some of the activities set, it helps. I just don't want the home learning to become an issue in any home; the priority is everybody's well-being. Everyone is working at a different pace and in different ways so **don't worry** if you see someone else posting lots of lovely things. [Do what works for you as a family and do what makes you happy.](#)

Regarding Google Classroom, we have received some useful feedback about how the work is organised on there, so teachers are trying to take that on board; hopefully you will find it easier to navigate. I would like to respectfully ask that if, as a parent, you have a concern or are not happy with the work that is not posted, please could you email the class teacher or the centre leader directly, rather than posting it on the live stream for everyone to read. We want the stream to be a positive place for the children, there is enough unease around at the moment. Many thanks.

Finally I would like to remind you to encourage your child to fill in the '**How are you feeling?**' question on Google Classroom before the end of Thursday. As we explained in the letter, it is difficult for us to see how everyone is doing as we can't pick up on those little differences or change in them. Someone from your school will be contacting anyone who scores themselves a 4 or below. This is not to check up on you, but more to see if there is anything we can do to help or support your child.

Please remember, we are all in this together and even though we can't be together physically we are here if anyone needs anything - don't struggle, get in touch with us.

Best wishes and really hoping we see you all soon.

Gail Jerman

Academy Headteacher

Never giving less than our best

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Year 6 Transition

We all recognise how difficult it will be for our pupils in Year 6 regarding transition to their prospective High Schools. I know some High Schools have organised virtual events already, but I have been in touch with each of our feeder schools to find out what they are planning. As soon as we hear anything, I will share with the relevant pupils.

We are also thinking about ways of marking the end of the primary years. We know those special end of Y6 events mean so much to the children, and to you as parents,, and whilst we can't recreate them all we will be organising various things to mark the occasion, some of which may not be until September. Once the Government announces plans for the re-opening of schools we will get further details out. Watch this Space!



Virtual Stars of the Week

We are so impressed with how much the children are engaging with the activities posted on Google Classroom, and with some of the activities they have been doing themselves that we are going to start doing Virtual Stars of Week.

Every Friday morning, I will post a PowerPoint presentation on each Classroom Live stream announcing the Stars for that week. The chosen pupils will then get a certificate emailed to them by the class teacher. We know some pupils are not able to access the Google Classroom so if there is something you want to share with us, please email it your class teacher, or to me, so we can share it too. Or maybe your family are doing something great within your community? Make sure we hear about it.

Thank you for all the lovely feedback we have received following our staff video - we really enjoyed putting it together and then seeing each other when it was released. We are pleased that you enjoyed it too.

