

31st March 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

One Week In

One week in and we hope that you and your families are well and coping with life under lockdown. Please follow the Government guidance and only venture out if it is absolutely essential. We continue to miss all the pupils and look forward to welcoming them back, hopefully in the near future, however for the time being it is imperative that they stay safe and we would really encourage this for all.

Learning Projects

Hopefully, you will all now have received your learning packs for your children. As I said in my letter last week please only do what you can. We all acknowledge this is an unusual and unprecedented time for us all. What works for one family and in one household will not necessarily work in another. Please just do what you can, remember the priority needs to be on wellbeing and if this means you spending time as a family, playing games, in the garden, baking or even watching a movie then please do so. My own children are both secondary school age but we spent time as a family playing board games at the weekend.

At the end of this week we will email out Learning Projects for the next fortnight (and every subsequent fortnight). These will also be on the website for parents/carers to access with activities undertaken practically or in the exercise books that have already gone home. We do appreciate that obviously the next two weeks are also the Easter break so please only look at it if you would like to. As a school we made the decision to continue to send over the break period given the current situation and the fact that this may just give you something else to look at and something else to do. For children accessing our restricted school provision, if they could continue to bring their Learning Packs to school with them on the days they are in this would be appreciated.

Top Tips for Children (in addition to the ideas in their Learning Projects and website links)

- Read, read, read. Now is the time to practice your reading, share a book with family, read another book by a favourite author, try a book by a new author (or an author you've not read before), indeed share recommendations with family and friends. I know all at Spalding Parish would love all pupils to foster a real love of reading and this is a real opportunity to develop and foster that. Please give it a go – it is an ideal time particularly when there are so many free downloadable books accessible on the web currently. Lots of authors are also sharing books on the web so have a listen, it might just inspire you.
- A Children across the world are undertaking their learning at home currently, supported by schools, and there has been an explosion in videos, blogs, online lessons and virtual experiences. Support your learning with some of these relevant and useful materials.



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- A Be active join in the Joe Wicks daily sessions or similar. Go for a walk (only with those you live with). Get out in the garden or do some other exercise at home.
- A Share what you have been doing with your class teacher (parents will need to support with this). It's great to keep in touch and see what you have all been up to.
- Avoid the temptation to become nocturnal and screen obsessed. Try to maintain a routine, stick to a decent bedtime and limit your screen time.

Top Tips for Parents/Carers

Family life looks very different in the current climate. Please know that we fully appreciate all that you are doing to support your children during this difficult and challenging time, including supporting any work they are undertaking through their Learning Projects. Here are some information reports that you may find quite interesting during this time.

- https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology_51960865
- https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-52010968?intlink_from_url=https://bbc.co.uk/news/education&link_location=live-reporting-story
- https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-51936286
- https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-51959957

SPCEDS Closure Challenge

Whilst routine is important, the focus needs to be on safety, love and fun. During this uncertain period, children need to feel safe and feel loved. You also all need to have fun! With this in mind we have decided, as a community to send you a fortnightly fun challenge. Something that is a little different to our normal learning projects. The idea of the challenge is to encourage pupils and siblings (potentially parents too) to get involved and try something new, a project to be creative, to help our emotional wellbeing whilst keeping us connected as a school community.

For our first challenge, we are going to stick with the time of year 'Easter'. What we would like you to do is create something Easter themed. You might like to make an Easter card for someone you care about, you could make an Easter bonnet, you might decorate an egg or complete some other Easter craft – I used to love making pom-pom chicks with my children! All we ask is that you take a photograph of your completed project and send it to the relevant Year Group email address for your child: Year I: Yl@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk Year 4: Y4@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk Year 5: Y5@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk Year 6: Y6@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk

The deadline is Thursday 9th April and we will post some of the pictures on the school Twitter account with a prize (still to be decided) for the best entries. There will also be house points too for when we return.

During these extraordinary times, it is important to remember that normal routines will continue to evolve and adapt and we hope that we can continue to support the school community with those challenges. We also want to stay connected so that when we do re-open, pupils will still fully feel part of the SPCEDS community and family.

Wishing you and your families well. Take care and above all stay safe. We are thinking of you all!

Kind Regards,

Diane Mulley Head Teacher



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