



6th April 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians and children

We have all made it to the end of two weeks of lockdown and I am sure that you are all looking forward to a period of rest from home schooling over Easter. School still remains open for critical workers over the Easter period and we have lots of fun activities planned for those children who will be attending. Once again, it is important to re-iterate the DFE guidelines that those children who can be cared for safely at home should be. The safest place for everyone remains at home and through doing this you are supporting the school being able to open so that we can support our critical workers and keep staff and children safe.

I have enjoyed seeing all the rainbows that have been created and I am sure that many of you took part in the clap for the NHS (I know that I did) and they are indeed our everyday heroes. Well done to all those children who have taken part in my challenges over the past two weeks, seeing your pictures of all the help you have been giving at home has made me a very proud head teacher and the winners will be rewarded for each challenge when they return to school with a small prize. I particularly found the bed making challenge photographs the funniest and I am sure that those of you who gave it a go will appreciate the work that goes into making a bed now. Throughout the last few weeks, I have received lots of photographs of art work including rainbows and suns and I am hoping that soon I will be able to share some of these images with you all on our webpage. It has been great to see your smiling faces and I can see that even in the most stressful times you are all enjoying your precious time together in your families.

You will all be pleased to know that all your teachers and the staff remain well and are missing all the children in their classes each day. We have even managed to have a zoom meeting and it was lovely to see all the teachers in one place again although it did take us a little bit of time to get everyone logged on. Some of the teachers have been out delivering school meals and it was lovely to see some of your smiling faces. We have also been delivering paper towels for the NHS and supporting the staff working on the front line. The local schools gathered together a mountain showing that in just a moment people come together and make something impossible possible...



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Home Learning

The teachers have been busy planning your learning for after the Easter holidays and on the Monday after the holidays (the 20th April), new home learning will be added to the class webpages. There will be three activities to complete each day and the teachers are looking forward to receiving some of the work through via their email addresses so that they can give feedback. This really is a useful way to motivate children to complete some learning. The work will be set in a way that can be completed in the exercise books that have been provided so printing will not be necessary. The teachers have asked that at least one piece of learning is emailed through each week to them so that they can see that the children are engaging with at least some of the work that has been set. If you have any problems, please use the email addresses which are on each of the class webpages to communicate with your teachers. The teachers will endeavour to respond to you as quickly as possible but please do remember that some of them may also be in school providing child care as well. Again, please do not put yourself or your family under pressure and all we ask is that you try to support with what you can. Do not worry if all the learning is not completed, on return to school we will all work together to catch the children up on their learning.

Free School Meal Vouchers

After the school holidays, if your child receives free school meals, you will not receive a delivered food parcel as you have been doing in previous weeks but you will receive an email with details of how to claim your voucher. School have used the emails that you have logged with us on our system so if this information is incorrect you may not receive the email so please let us know as quickly as you can so that we can rectify this with the DFE providers.

Phone call Home

Please do not worry if you miss a call from us at Britannia or if you see us calling you. As part of our Britannia family, your family and your child's welfare is of utmost importance to us and we will be endeavouring to contact families as often as possible to ensure that you are as well supported throughout this difficult time as possible. If you are experiencing any problems or struggling in any way, please do let us know and we may be able to offer some additional support or signpost you to a different service. Hopefully, you will all have received a call over the past two weeks and I know that I really enjoyed touching base with the families again. It was lovely to hear the supportive comments from you all and hear about some of the adventures you have been having.

So a final word.....

School is not the same without you all here and I cannot wait to get everyone back together again. Parents, you will be doing an amazing job so please do not worry and stop putting pressure on yourselves. Make memories and laugh lots together.

Until we are back together children- carry on being superstars for your families, I know it is difficult being stuck inside but remember that your parents and families are just keeping you safe. Try to do a bit of learning each day, read a chapter of a book and think of at least one thing that is amazing each day and that you are grateful for. We will all be back together soon in school and I can't imagine how big you will all be when you return. The theme for the next week's art is Easter- can you create an egg-tastic scene or an egg-tastic person or Easter bonnet? Email pictures to head@britannia.lancs.sch.uk and have lots of fun.

Take care and stay safe and I will see you all soon.

Mrs Longstaff

