



May 2020 Newsletter

Helping your child develop a love for life and learning

Value of the month – Tolerance

A MESSAGE FROM MRS O'BRIEN

Dear Parents/Carers,

I don't know if (like me) you are counting the days to get back to normal but school has now been closed to most families for an unprecedented six weeks. I think Friday 20th March 2020 will be etched in my mind for ever. Whilst this period of time is the hardest that I have ever been through in my teaching career, I am incredibly proud of the Worpleston Primary School community. Children, parents, staff and governors are all playing their part to get through this. The children of key workers attending school come to school without grumble and have shown excellent behaviour and attitudes. Children at home continue to show resilience, striving to be the best they can be. I continue to enjoy giving out golden leaves, Values Awards and House Points to recognise the children's efforts at both home and at school. Please continue to keep us updated on your children's achievements so that we can continue to give your children the special recognition they deserve.

As a parent myself, I understand the challenges that juggling home-schooling and a day job brings. I think you are all doing an amazing job for your children's emotional well-being and their learning. Remember that **the most important thing at this time is the emotional well-being of you and your families** so please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, a senior leader, Mrs Ireland (Home Scholl Link Worker) or myself if you have any concerns about helping your children learn or you need any other support from the school.

With online learning in mind, we continue to listen to your feedback and from next week, each class teacher will be offering a live class with groups of children. This will provide children with the opportunity to be part of a live video with your child's class teacher and some of their classmates. In order for this facility to be safe and secure, the IT team at Worpleston have been working hard to ensure appropriate filtering and monitoring systems are in place for the product 'google meet' to be used by the children. In order for your child to benefit from these sessions, you will need to complete the form that was sent to you yesterday via ParentMail. It is our intent that these live classes are helpful not a burden on families however, I am very aware that every family circumstance is different during these challenging times. **If you would like your child to take part in these live classes but for one reason or another, you are unable to sign the agreement, please do not hesitate to contact me; hopefully I can help to find a solution.**

I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the hard work of the staff at Worpleston. Teachers, teaching assistants, office team, site management, kitchen staff and senior leaders are all playing a vital part in keeping our provision both at home and school working well. I feel privileged to have such a wonderful team. Finally, thanks must go to the Governing Body who continue to give their support, as well as acting as a critical friend to ensure we are doing our very best for each and every child.

Finally, I am sure you have heard via the National News that politicians are beginning to talk about children coming back to school. Like you, I do not know the details of the government's plans however we are starting to consider the different possible scenarios so that when the government presents their plans, we can act swiftly in our communication with you.

It leaves me to wish you a wonderful weekend. Stay safe, keep strong and I hope to see you very soon.

Best wishes,

Kareen O'Brien

Kareen O'Brien
Head Teacher



Updates & Dates

SUMMER SOIREE

We are looking for performances for this year's fabulous online Summer Soiree. If your child has written a song, or has a dance or a poem to perform please send Mrs Baynes the video. Alternatively, if your child would like to offer a painting or other piece of art then please send in a photo to: cbaynes@worpelsdon.surrey.sch.uk.

Each performance can be no more than 3 minutes in length and should be filmed in portrait please. The theme for this year is: **"There is no Planet B"** inspired by a beautiful poem written by Isla in Year 6.

LARKS CLASS

As many of you will already know, Mrs Carey (Larks class teacher) is expecting a baby. Today is her last day before she starts her maternity leave. We know you will all join us in wishing her all the very best for the coming weeks. Larks will now be taught by Miss Nutbeen for the rest of the academic year.



How are you doing?

If you, or your family are having a hard time at the moment, you are not alone. There are many ways to get help.

How to keep your child safe

Young people may be spending a lot more time online. Do you know who your child is talking to?

For online safety advice for children and parents visit www.thinkuknow.co.uk

If young people see something criminal online (or offline) they can report it 100% anonymously at www.fearless.org

If you're concerned about the safety of a child or young person call **0300 470 9100 (01483 517898 out of office hours)** to speak to the specialist team at Surrey Children's Single Point of Access.

Mental health

Social distancing and isolation will be hard for many people. For tips on mental wellbeing and to access specialist support locally visit www.healthysurrey.org.uk/mentalwellbeing

You can also get help from Mind. Visit www.mind.org.uk, call 0300 123 3393 or text 86463.

If you, or someone you know is in crisis visit www.samaritans.org or call them on 116 123.

Young people who are feeling particularly anxious or depressed can visit www.kooth.com

At home shouldn't mean at risk

If you are feeling frightened in your home because of someone's behaviour, the Surrey Domestic Abuse Helpline is open 9am to 9pm, 7 days a week; **01483 776822** or visit www.surreyagainstda.info

If you are in immediate danger call the Police on 999. If you can't talk out loud the police operate a Silent Solution, call 999 and then press 55.

Children and young people who don't feel safe at home can get help from Childline, call **0800 1111** or visit www.childline.org.uk

Stay Safe. #SurreyTogether

