



Dear Parents,

Well done for another week of home learning. I hope you took some comfort this week from the BBC News article where they reported if you manage to get your child to do one hour of home learning a day you get a gold star in parenting! We fully support this view at St Catherine's and appreciate that it's not easy working from home whilst running the home and caring for your children AND being their teachers. We are providing you with as much resources and direction as we can but ultimately we know every child will need their parent to sit with them and guide them through each activity - and that's not easy.

The EYFS Staff and SLT would like to say a big thank you for all the wonderful learning parents are putting on Tapestry. It has been lovely to see what the children have been up to and seeing how happy they are. We shall be adding a few more links for EYFS games and activities on Tapestry. Please keep sharing your child's learning!

We hope the teaching blogs on Purplemash have been helpful. We are also uploading videos from various educational organisations such as White Rose which also explain concepts to help your child understand and to develop in their learning. When completing tasks on PurpleMash please make sure your child clicks on the "hand in" button (where one applies) so the work is submitted.

We hope your child has had the opportunity to look at the BBC Bitesize home learning - the lessons in each year group are very informative and engaging with colourful animations and tasks.

Health & Support

The school Nurse would like you to be aware that the Health Visitors and the School Health Team are available for you to get in contact if you have any questions or concerns. Please see the flyer attached for contact details.

The NHS have also provided families with a video to support families of children that are not neuro typical. However some of the advice is helpful for all families. It's an 11minute video with ideas and suggestions to help your child feel safe, happy and less anxious during this time. Please see the link below.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dXPtqmHKNoE&feature=emb_title

We've also been made aware of some free online training for Parents on supporting your child's emotional resilience during Covid -19 from Brightsparks. It's launching on 29th April and focuses on children aged 4-11yrs old.

Please see more details using this link <https://www.brightsparkscic.org.uk/er-covid19>

SingUp

The benefits of singing are well documented and we know St Catherine's children love to sing and some might be missing singing together. We want the children to know they can still sing, and still learn new songs and be ready for when we come back together again! Please see the free resource at <http://www.singup.org>

If you encourage your child to go to the Singup website and click the header Sing Up At Home there is a Song of the Week icon which has a tutorial, rehearsal and backing track . Everything is there for your child to learn the song and support their development. There's even some harmony tracks if they fancy a challenge! This week's song is One Moment, One People. It might be something different to do this weekend!

This week we have received several queries regarding the date for when schools will reopen. We appreciate there is lots of speculation and discussion around this decision in the news and social media. As yet we have not received any formal guidance or information from the DFE, Public Health England or the Local Authority. Once we have been informed we will be in contact with you directly. However please keep in mind that when we were told schools were closing we were only given 48 hours notice. We will continue to seek advice and guidance from the Local Authority on how we will plan for a return to school whilst following PHE guidelines so that our community continues to reduce the spread of the virus as far as possible.

In the meantime we will continue to post the latest advice and information on our twitter page at @StCatherinesEN5.

Have a lovely weekend and take care of each other!

Best wishes

St Catherine's School