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**Executive Head Teacher: Mrs Laura Green**

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace  
1 Peter 4:10*

*Work together, learn together, grow together...*

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **Re: School Closure Updates and News**

I want to use today's letter to recognise what you and the children are doing. I know that you are working incredibly hard to support your child/children's continued learning; you've had various issues with technology, whether it be trying to download, upload and/or access the Google classroom; you're working from home or working in a front line service; you're caring for your child/children and possibly elderly or vulnerable relatives, friends and neighbours ; the domestic chores are never ending; visits to the supermarket or online orders are a pain and you're dealing with the effects of living through the Covid-19 pandemic. Please keep reminding yourself of what an amazing job you're doing.

A member of staff shared these words that she came across recently:

*Everyone is applauding everyone but our children. These little heroes have stayed indoors more than they've ever known in their lives. Their whole worlds have literally been turned upside down and they don't know why. All these rules they've never known. Not being able to see family or give hugs. Holidays, sports and activities, play dates and school cancelled. Adults talking about others becoming unwell, news reporting death after death. Our poor children's minds must be racing. Every day their resilient little bodies get up and carry on despite all that's going on. So here's to our little heroes: today, tomorrow, forever.*

So while we celebrate VE day and the momentous events of 75 years ago, let's give some thought to the incredible way in which we are facing up to life in 2020 and the different kind of bravery that is being asked of us now.

## **Child Care Arrangements**

### **Half-Term Holiday:**

The Wymondham Cluster of schools have made child care arrangements for the half term holiday. Children of critical workers and vulnerable families will be able to make a booking for Robert Kett Primary School's Extra Time Club at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/jdcyz3tMM8SWyTTY9>

The deadline for responses is 9am on Monday 18th May.

## **Critical Workers:**

If you are a critical worker, and you do not have suitable alternative care for your child, we are providing childcare at our Morley Primary School site during the school closure. If the number of places required for Tacolneston pupils increases, we will consider opening that site for our children of critical workers, but at present, it makes sense to limit our staffing, maintenance and cleaning needs to one site. To make a booking for places, please make contact with me on [head@morley.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:head@morley.norfolk.sch.uk).

Arrangements for our childcare provision are as follows:

- Tacolneston pupils to be brought to Morley Primary School (address at the top of this letter)
- School will be open from 8:40am to 3:15pm
- The morning session will run from 8:40 to 12:15
- The afternoon session will run from 1:15 to 3:15
- A snack pack lunch can be provided by our catering company, Norse, as usual from 12:15 to 1:15
- There will be access to Universal Infant Free School meals as usual (snack pack only). Families who are eligible for free school meals will be in receipt of vouchers to cover the school closure period so they will need to provide a packed lunch for their child or buy a lunch, on the day, from Norse.
- Your child can wear comfortable home clothes. They should have a complete change of clothes each day and you will need to ensure that they shower and wash their hair on return from our setting.
- They should bring their wellies, PE Kit and water bottles (all clearly labelled)
- They can bring a healthy mid-morning snack

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns, or if your circumstances change at any time.

## **Home Learning:**

### **On-line guitar tuition**

Paul Frost who teaches guitar to some of the children at Morley is now available for on-line guitar lessons. I know some of you are continuing your piano and recorder lessons on-line with Mrs Sturgess which have been going well so if any of Mr Frost's pupils would like to carry on with their guitar lessons, please contact him on: [paul.frost@freeuk.com](mailto:paul.frost@freeuk.com)

### **Summer Reading Challenge:**

Please encourage your child to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, which can be found on their class page on the website and in the Google Classroom.

### **Google Classroom**

Some parents are experiencing problems viewing videos that are posted in google classroom. Most PC's or MAC's can have software (normally an app) which would enable videos from a different format to be watched. Simply use google and it should let you know the software that you would need. If you are experiencing any problems in gaining access to the classroom, please let us know.

### **Collective Worship**

Reverend Sally has made short Collective Worship videos to share with the children and families. We have shared two videos in the Google Classrooms this week and will continue to add videos in the coming weeks.

## **Safeguarding and Wellbeing:**

Ebbany and Sophie are doing a charity bike ride for the NHS and trying to raise money.

They are completing 100 kilometres over 10 days and hope to raise £200. Please help to support the girls and donate just £1 by Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May. All donations via PayPal at [sparklecaz@yahoo.com](mailto:sparklecaz@yahoo.com) (mum's PayPal).

## Celebration Friday

Our children have completed some wonderful work this week. The teachers have nominated the following children for special mention:

- Mr Watson says: *Special mention to Polly, Martha, Ella-Rose, Willow Motteram, Edward, Arthur, Charlie, Evie, Cameron, Elisa, Sophie, Maiya, Nicole, Byron, James and Theo for contributing regularly on Google Classroom this week.*
- Mrs Easter and Mrs Cooper say: *Pine class have had another fabulous week, the creativity coming through on the classroom is amazing and we both love to see everything that you do. This week we have seen: moving dinosaurs, counting, reading under a bed, story writing, crafting Mr Forky, making and writing crayon stories, science experiments, helping with chores, life-cycles, looking after family pets, pancake making and eating, wall painting, den building, marshmallow toasting, sunflower painting, dino sorting and fact sheet making! Phew - what a busy lot of children we had. Once again, huge thanks to the parents and carers who are juggling so much at home. We want to emphasise that you are all doing a great job, the children are happy and safe and clearly having a wonderful time. Do contact us on [pine@morley.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:pine@morley.norfolk.sch.uk) if we can be of any help. Stay safe - Mrs Easter and Mrs Cooper*
- Mrs O'Dell says: *It is really hard to pick out any individuals this week as there has been such a range of excellent work and ideas. Alfie has really impressed me with his writing this week, Bethan, Finley Tyas, Milly, Robin, Anja-Faith, Amy, Abi and Josh have contributed great ideas to the stream this week and are always there to support others and comment on things they have done, It has been great to have Jamie-lee on Google Classroom and she is completing some great work, There has been an amazing amount of excellent maths from everyone and the baking this week has been phenomenal - Willow Class are definitely a class of chefs. They've all been amazing.*
- Mr East says: *Sycamore have been looking in more depth at mummies, and Imogen deserves a special mention for great work, and coming up with her own ideas to explore the Egyptians. Ben has made a wonderful Egyptian necklace, and Charles has been working so hard on all his subjects. Well done all!*
- Mr Clements says: *I have seen lots of amazing work in the Google Classroom this week. I would like to give a special mention to Bethany W who has clearly been putting a lot of time and effort into her spelling whilst we have been away from school. Jack B has done some amazing science work and Jake has also shared some brilliant work across different subjects. I could write something for everyone who has been sharing work on the classroom, but there just isn't enough space on the weekly letter to do it all justice!*

## Values Certificates

We are awarding Values Certificates to the following children (they will find their certificates in the Class Work area of their Google Classroom):

- **Byron Jones – Perseverance:** For writing a brilliant version of 'Harry and his Bucketful of Dinosaurs' this week.
- **James Martin – Responsibility:** For showing a willingness to take responsibility for his learning at home and completing his Summer Reading Challenge!
- **Sebastian – Perseverance:** Sebastian has been doing some fantastic learning this week, he has thrown himself into learning about dinosaurs and managed to measure how long his line of dino's was using a tape measure – we are super proud of you Sebastian!

- **Mikey – Courage:** Mikey has been working so hard on his reading, he has read books, learnt his tricky words and even read a story to his sister under the bed! We are very proud of you Mikey!
- **Charles – Perseverance:** For persevering with his Maths and working so well on all of his work.
- **Mitzee – Friendship:** For sharing books with her younger cousin.
- **Amelia, Catherine and Francesca – Friendship:** They are all really supportive of their classmates on Google Classroom and have made some very supportive comments about their friends' work.



Some of our children have celebrated their birthdays this week. I'd like to say a big

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
to  
**POLLY AND ELOISA!**

**And finally:**

Reverend Sally shared this prayer with us in the first of her collective worship videos this week:

*Father,  
help us to remember the important things in life -  
Kindness, love, truth and honesty  
And that all the money and possessions in the world  
Will not make us happy if we are not right with You, ourselves and others.  
Give us a sense of how You would like us to be  
So we can use our lives well and truthfully  
And in a way that pleases You.  
Amen*

Kind Regards

Laura Green  
Executive Head Teacher