



West Lodge Primary School Weekly Bulletin

Respecting each other, learning creatively, challenging all.

Dear Parents/Carers,

27th March 2020

It is hard to imagine all that has happened over the past fortnight and how quickly things have changed. I sit back in awe at how the community have come together so strongly. Thank you for all your efforts. There will continue to be challenging times ahead but the strength we have as a community – which has been demonstrated in spades over the past fortnight – will help us all. The support networks are strong, which fills me with hope.

I hope the children's first week at home has gone well – if things aren't working out as planned or as smoothly as you had hoped – we empathise (we feel that most days – learning is messy)! You are trying to juggle working from home, entertaining your children, teaching them and being a parent - you are doing an amazing job. The new home learning plans for next week are now on the website.

<https://westlodgeprimary.secure-primariesite.net/home-learning-week-2/>

Use the structure we suggested last week if that works for your child and you, however don't be worried about changing your plans and veering off in another direction if that feels right. The most important thing at this time is providing love, support and a listening ear.

I would like to thank Mr and Mrs Nahata for their helping in setting up Zoom accounts for each class and members of the leadership team. They have been particularly patient with me – I think I have picked it up now. You may have heard that things didn't quite go as planned at the Winnie the Pooh story-time session on Thursday – but I have now learnt the tricks of the trade and we had a successful assembly on the NHS this morning. I would like to thank Rafiq-Raheem, Anya and Zahra who all sent me emails of encouragement after the story-time session. There will be more 10-minute assemblies next week: Monday at 10:30am and Friday at 9:30am – please tune in. We had 270 children this morning. There will be a story-time session with Mr Dees on Wednesday at 2:30pm. Please look out for the Zoom invites! The class Zoom accounts are all set up and the teachers are excited to get started with them next week. I know the teachers are keen to get started with story-time and other things.

"A rainbow is a promise - of sunshine after rain, of calm after storms, of joy after sadness, of peace after pain, of love after loss." On the home learning plans for next week one of the activities is to make a rainbow to hang in the window for everyone to see. Remember to use the correct colours: Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo and violet (Richard of York gained battle in vain)!

The Y3/4 and Y5/6 choirs are planning a choir meeting at 2pm on Friday next week (3rd April). Please check the Choir page on DB Primary for more details.

Safeguarding and Well-being

If you have any safeguarding or well-being concerns during this period then please contact the school on office@westlodge.harrow.sch.uk and a member of the safeguarding team will call you back. I have listed other useful numbers and websites linked to safeguarding concerns or well-being – see below.

Harrow Golden Number: 0208 901 2690

Hillingdon Safeguarding Hub (MASH): 01895 556 633

Childline: 0800 1111

Samaritans: 116 123

NSPCC: 0800 800500 <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

Domestic Violence Hotline: 0808 2000 247

Mind: 0300 123 3393

La Leche League: 0345 1202918 (for mums struggling to get formula milk)

Family Lives (previously Parentline): 0808 800 2222 <https://www.familylives.org.uk/how-we-can-help/confidential-helpline/>

Gingerbread - Single Parent Helpline: 0808 802 0925 <https://www.gingerbread.org.uk/>

Latest Government and NHS Advice

The link below shares the most recent advice from the government. This includes the statement: The single most important action we can all take in fighting coronavirus is to stay at home in order to protect the NHS and save lives.

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Another reminder that personal hygiene continues to be the most important way we can tackle COVID-19 (see link below).

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Thank you for your continued support.

"There is a rainbow of hope at the end of every storm." Benjamin Juarez

Have a lovely weekend,

Jim Dees

