QUEENSWAY SCHOOL



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Friday 17th April 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope you all managed to some kind of Easter weekend, enjoying the sunshine and eating lots of chocolate.

With the Government announcement yesterday that the lockdown will last at least another three weeks I am sure many of you are starting to really feel the effect now on many aspects of your life. In my humble opinion, I think this time has brought the best out in people and I am constantly amazed by the small acts of kindness and care that we are all seeing and reading about. On that note, it would be lovely if families want to email us photographs of their rainbow posters or 'NHS thank-yous' which we will then put on our Facebook page.

In the light of an extended period of lockdown I thought it might be appropriate to share some useful information for parents from organisations which can offer guidance and support. I don't want to overwhelm you with all the information in one go, but just dip in and out of the attachments depending on your own needs and time.

- The Children's Commissioner have published a Coronavirus booklet to share with you child. It is very
 accessible and may help for children who are feeling anxious at this time. cco-childrens-guide-to-coronavirus.pdf
- Oxfordshire County Council's Domestic Abuse support poster. Oxfordshire relationship help and support during Covid-19.pdf
- Oxfordshire County Council's Live Well poster, with contact details for help and support with mental health, relationships, domestic abuse, drugs and alcohol misuse, financial pressures, parenting and LGBT+ support. Oxfordshire help and support during Covid-19 .pdf

<u>Home learning:</u> Teachers will be posting on the class blogs, by noon today, next week's work plans for children. Please ensure you are still reading to and with your children as often as possible. http://www.queensway.oxon.sch.uk/page/?title=Class+Pages&pid=32.

Information for families who are in receipt of Free School Meals: I think it's fair to say that this group of families are well aware of the frustrations we are encountering with the Government system for e-vouchers as we have sent a few emails over the last week to the families as well as quite a lot of press coverage about this scheme. Hopefully now the vouchers are starting to come through. The system simply couldn't cope with the huge usage and kept crashing. Thank you for your patience and I hope the £15 per week per child will go to good use. Remember the e-vouchers are valid for 4 weeks. We get notified when families redeem their e-vouchers.

<u>Information for Key Workers and vulnerable families using Queensway childcare:</u> Please email us asap your requests for childcare for next week if it has changed at all from your previous booking.

Please don't hesitate to get in contact if you need any further clarification or support.

Keep well and stay safe,

Mrs Sarah Horbury Jakeman Head Teacher