

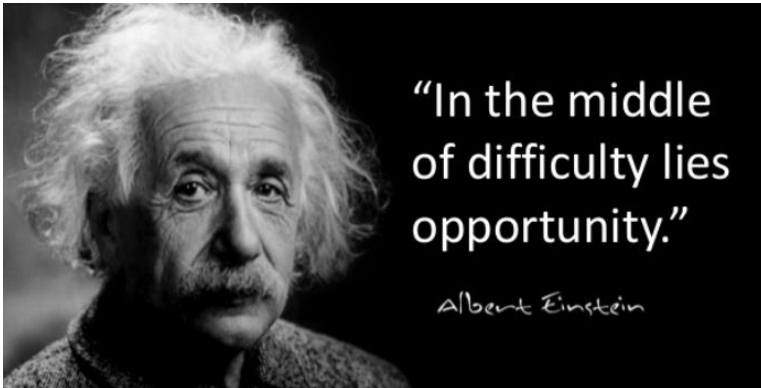
The Topsham School

Newsletter 30



A love of learning and commitment to the success of every child at the heart of all we do.
Tel: 01392 874498 Website: www.topsham.devon.sch.uk

Friday 1st May 2020



Yesterday I was working with Mrs Phillips on a school policy; not exciting but a real pleasure to just be spending time with her- at the appropriate level of social distancing of course.

We were saying that even though this time is extremely challenging, it has provided some opportunities to meet with people and work through things that when

the school is open as 'normal' we may struggle to find the time to do.

As part of our work yesterday, we were linking our school values into the document and the word, opportunity, came up again. As you know one of our values is 'Opportunity for all'. It made me stop and consider what opportunities this time has opened up.

Having spoken to staff and seeing the photos on Facebook and the school blog, it appears that many in our school community are using this time to take the opportunity to try something new or work on things they really enjoy. I know that many of our children are enjoying cooking and baking treats, learning to play different card and board games, making playdough, making slime, carrying out science investigations, planting seeds and gardening, and many more activities that ignite curiosity and bring joy.

I know that staff are taking the opportunity to try new things including knitting, painting, sewing, cycling, running, decorating, gardening and trying new recipes- what can be made with the last things that remain in the cupboard and fridge?

This time is also bringing the opportunity to work and communicate with others using varying forms of technology. I have never been so grateful for my phone. To have the opportunity to speak to my family and friends and be able to see them, even if only remotely, is something I cherish.

I hope this weekend, you all, have the opportunity, to spend some time with your family doing something that you all enjoy, whatever, that may be.

Take care of each other

Mrs Pipe

We're all in this together – A special video message from the staff at Topsham School



A HUGE thank you to Mrs Whitehead and Miss Greygoose who rallied the staff and worked together to make our video. It was great fun to do. Thank you for everyone's kind comments. We really are "all in this together".

If you have not already seen it, you are able to view the video recorded by our staff on the school blog page of our website. www.topsham.devon.sch.uk/school-blog

The video is also available to view on the school Facebook page.

Wow! The children of Topsham School have been very busy at home this week...

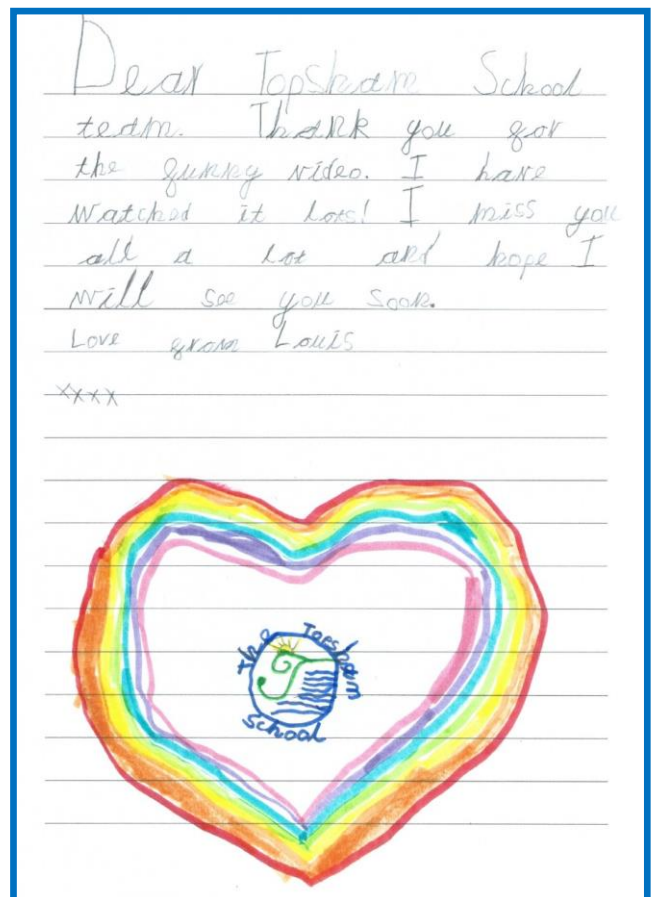
It has been lovely to see all the things the children have been getting up to in addition to their remote learning. Parents are welcome to send photos of anything their children are doing outside of school work, to our admin email address, admin@topsham.devon.sch.uk.

This could be something they have baked, made or grown, photos of a bike ride, dancing or anything else they would like to share with other members of the school community. We will try to upload some of the photos to our Facebook page, our blog on the school website and include some in the weekly newsletter.

Please only send photos you and your children are happy for us to share in this manner and please remember to adhere to safeguarding rules outlined in the parent image letter.



This beautiful photo of two swans was skilfully captured by budding photographer, Holly in Year 4.



All the staff were extremely touched by the beautiful letter below, written by Louis in Year 1.

SAFEGUARDING



Safeguarding Leads and contact information

Provision has now restarted in school for the children of our Key Workers and children identified by the government as vulnerable. The school's staff rota has been written to ensure a Safeguarding Lead will be in school each day. Members of staff with this designated position are as follows:

- Mrs Emma Pipe: Designated Safeguarding Lead and Headteacher:
epipe@topsham.devon.sch.uk
- Miss Maria White: Deputy Safeguarding Lead, Deputy Headteacher and Online Safety Leader
mwhite@topsham.devon.sch.uk
- Mrs Hartmann: Deputy Safeguarding Lead, SENDCO and Early Help Leader
nhartmann@topsham.devon.sch.uk

If **any** parent has a safeguarding concern or query about ANY child within our community, please email for advice.

IF ANY ADULT FEELS A CHILD OR ADULT MAY BE IN IMMEDIATE DANGER YOU MUST CALL MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) OR 999

*"If you are worried about a child or young person in Devon and want to speak to someone, or if you are a child or young person worried about your own safety please contact the MASH on **0345 155 1071** or email mashsecure@devon.gov.uk and give as much information as you can."*
Devon Children and Families Partnership.

Messages from Teachers...

In school this week....

"It has been a great week in school. The children have all worked hard on their Google Classroom work. It has been lovely to see some familiar faces and to catch up with a few people too. We have created some beautiful rainbows on slate, which we are hoping to hang on the wall near the entrance to the school."

Mrs de Winton

Little Acorns

"It has been lovely to catch up with more of you this week and to find out all the wonderful things you have been doing in recent weeks. Well done for all your exploring and for completing your Japser's Beanstalk challenges - I have loved your ideas for what could be at the top of the beanstalk!"

Mr Vernon and the FSU Team

Big Acorns

"Wow Big Acorns what an amazing week you have had! Your story recall, sequencing and work on the days of the week has been amazing. What a creative bunch you have been with your ideas for what Jasper might find when he climbs his beanstalk. Great work on your early measuring as well - you all seem to have lots of socks! Thank you for also going on your colour hunts and for helping us to make our colourful beanstalk in the Yellow Room. Fantastic work Big Acorns!"

Miss Dinning, Mr Vernon and the FSU Team

Year 1

"Well done for another fantastic week, Year 1! Mrs Phillips has been in school this week and has loved seeing some of you there! Mrs Chesworth has enjoyed seeing what you've all been up to at home this week.

This week, Year 1 have been finishing off their learning about weighing and have begun looking at shapes. It has been so wonderful to see lots of the different recipes you have been making at home to put your weighing skills into action! You've all worked so hard to find different shapes around your house and garden and create your own shape pictures."

Mrs Chesworth and Mrs Phillips

Year 2

"A bit like the weather, this week Year 2 have seen themselves getting rather wet! They have been applying their brilliant knowledge and understanding of measure in the form of capacity, cookery and comparison of many many centimetres! Pro's at weight and length, they have been finding more than, less than and equal to using everyday objects. Not only have they been busy mathematicians, they have worked tirelessly on their Jack and the Beanstalk stories. I have been amazed by the quality of vocabulary, presentation and creativity - a huge well done. Not only this, but their recent Topic work linked to the UK deserves a book of its own."

Mrs Whitehead



Year 3

"This week Year 3 have been busy writing their final literary masterpieces - their own versions of Jack and the Beanstalk. They have entertained Mrs Daitz with some very funny dialogue punctuated with speech marks and terrified her with very realistic descriptive writing of what lurks at the top of their beanstalk! We have also enjoyed looking at author Tom McLaughlin's website, trained our brains with mental addition and subtraction, and learnt what a podcast is!"

Mrs Daitz

Year 4

"Being in school this week, it is amazing how well all the children, including year 4, have got on with their learning and have been creative and resourceful! We are having some super chats in our class stream, sharing jokes, funny videos and photographs of things that we have achieved with our families. We are looking toward to seeing all the Geography projects, and hearing all about our local area and environment. Keep up the good work Year 4!"

Mrs Finnegan

Year 5

"Thanks Year 5 for working hard again at home this week and for understanding that I haven't been able to have as much contact with you each day. Keep up the hard work Year 5 and I look forward to seeing all your work at the end of the week."

Mrs de Winton

Year 6

"What another great week in Year 6! Once again, they have produced some fantastic work that I have thoroughly enjoyed reading and looking through. As a class they all seem to be getting more and more confident using Google Classroom - well done for persevering Year 6. It has been lovely to see them all supporting each other when they can. They have been writing their own take on Jack and the Beanstalk and have had some amazing, creative ideas, I am really looking forward to reading them. A big thank you to all of Year 6 for their continued hard work and to parents for their ongoing support with home learning. Well done Year 6, enjoy a well-deserved rest this weekend."

Miss Greygoose

Covid-19 Updates for Parents

As a school, we are receiving information and updates from a wide range of sources including the Department for Education and Devon County Council. As the situation evolves, we will endeavour to collate the information that is relevant to parents and share this with you on a weekly basis.

If you are having a food emergency

If you are having difficulty feeding your children and find you have no or very little food, you can ring Estuary League of Friends on 01392 879009 and ask for Simone. They are able to arrange emergency food deliveries.

Domestic Abuse

Limited contact with the outside world may cause an increase in domestic abuse. Domestic abuse is never ok.

If you or someone you know is suffering abuse - help is available, visit: Devon: www.victimcaredevonandcornwall.org.uk

In an emergency, always dial 999.

Domestic abuse can affect **anyone** and takes **many forms**

Enforced isolation from friends, family and colleagues may cause an increase in **domestic abuse.**

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

The graphic features a yellow header with the text 'Domestic abuse can affect anyone and takes many forms'. Below this is a blue section with the text 'Enforced isolation from friends, family and colleagues may cause an increase in domestic abuse.' To the right of this text is a brick wall with a window. Inside the window is a simple line drawing of a person with a sad face, wearing a purple shirt. Below the text and image is a row of four colored boxes containing the words 'YOU', 'ARE', 'NOT', and 'ALONE' in white capital letters.



The latest national advice on coronavirus (COVID-19) is available on the [Government website](#) and [NHS website](#).

For local Government advice, please visit the [Devon County Council website](#).