

Durley CE Primary School

Summer Term Newsletter 1

1 May 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the first newsletter for the summer term. I am very grateful to the teaching staff for the time they have spent contacting every family in the school over the past week for a quick catch up and offers of help with any issues you may be having with supporting your child's learning at home. We have loved hearing how you are all getting on and hope to be back together in school as soon as it is safe to do so. From discussions with parents, I believe that everyone has found it a little harder to get back into the routines of school work after the Easter break.



We have uploaded the new learning packs for the weeks beginning 4th and 11th May onto the school website, and will be emailing them to you today. They can be found on the website under Curriculum/Home learning weeks 5 and 6 <http://durley.hants.sch.uk/> and have been designed so you will not need to print them out, as we are aware that not everyone has the facility. If you have any problems accessing the work or any questions regarding the work itself, please do not hesitate to email us at adminoffice@durley.hants.sch.uk or phone 01489 860207. The school office is fully manned between 8:00am and 4:00pm by Miss Pink, Mr Male or myself.

I am delighted to see that more and more of you are using ClassDojo as a vehicle to send in work to your child's class teacher, ask questions and receive messages and Dojos back. I had an email from the site to say we had sent home 170 messages, shared 670 stories and celebrated 546 skills last week. I have also been very impressed to see the ingenious ways in which you have tried to make your learning fun from making spellings with stones in the garden, measuring water with the containers from the kitchen and grouping toys to help with multiplication tables.

Yesterday morning, the children in school watched an act of worship from the newly set up National Oak Academy which is led by the Archbishop of Canterbury. We were very impressed with its accessibility for children and message of hope at this strange time. It is a short 10 minute clip and can be found at <https://www.thenational.academy/assembly> which I would fully recommend. We also sang Happy Birthday to fundraiser Captain Tom on his 100th birthday accompanied by the Hampshire Music Service virtual orchestra. <https://youtu.be/sTvoORpbOpo> Can you spot our brass teacher Mr Smith?

Instrumentalists

For those of you who take up music lessons, I am very grateful to the parent who told me about the 'showcase virtual orchestra' which is completely free. For those of you who have not seen it, you are sent a piece of music each week which is at your ability level. You then film yourself playing the music and send it back to be part of an online orchestra. We managed to spot Isla playing the Avengers theme tune on her Flute. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-obBhZSMrg> . Please let me know if you sign up as it is fun to watch and we are missing our school music concerts.

VE Day

If we had been in school, next week we would have been celebrating VE Day (Victory in Europe). I have been very impressed with the pieces of research and interviews children have been sending in as part of their project work. We will be holding onto them for a future exhibition.



Finally a huge thank you for all of your good wishes and cakes that have kept us going over the past fortnight, Mrs Sweich's wonderful rhubarb cake and apple roulade, Nikki B—The Cake Lady for her cup cakes, Carolyn Campbell for the rocky roads and chocolate orange cake and Katie Apps for the sweets. It stops us feeling so lonely knowing you are thinking about us.

Keep up the handwashing and social distancing!

Kirstie Baines—Headteacher