

Kings Worthy Primary School Newsletter



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Dear Parents and Carers,

The first part of my newsletter today is for the children and it is not very easy for me to write.

Today I have to do something that I have never had to do, nor that I thought I would ever have to do. This is because of a virus which is really nasty and is changing many things which we see as normal around us.

On Wednesday, our Prime Minister updated us and told us that all schools will be closing in the whole country from today for most children. Some children have mums and dads who work in jobs such as in the police, in hospitals and in shops, delivering food, and they will still have to come to school where we can look after them while their parents go to work. Those children will be back at school on Monday.

From what the Prime Minister has said, it could be a while until school opens again. Nothing like this has ever happened in my lifetime and as you all know I have only just turned 26 so that is a long time.

This means that lots of you will need to carry on learning at home. Your teachers sent some work home for you this week and I know some of you have probably already started it. Over the next few weeks, we will be putting lots of activities and things on the website for you to do or emailing them to your parents.

Today, we are sending out the School Closure Challenge and every child will receive one house point for every activity they have completed when they get back to school. That could be quite a lot of house points!

You will all need to take some responsibility for your learning and work hard. Please remember that you may be at home, but you are still Kings Worthy Primary School children so please make all your teachers and adults that you work with proud of you. Remember to be the best you can be at all times. Especially when you are talking to your parents or your brothers and sisters while you are at home.

I know that this will be a very difficult time for everyone. I know it will be difficult for all of the Kings Worthy children because you are brilliant, conscientious and will miss being with your friends and staff at school. The safety and lives of our Kings Worthy community must come first during these difficult times.

Most importantly children, please remember....don't drive your parents up the wall (ok...maybe just a little bit)!

To the parents:

Thank you so much for your patience and understanding this week during a very difficult time for all of us. I have sent home a letter today requesting those of you who are key workers to contact the school immediately to let us know your circumstances at home so that I am able to make a decision as to whether or not we will be able to offer provision for your child/children. This information will be provided to those parents by the end of today.

I need to stress that the Government advice this morning ***is that parents should keep their children at home, wherever possible and that schools remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend.***

From next week I will be temporarily closing the breakfast club and after school care facility. I cannot possibly keep this running until I have a clearer idea on the numbers of children we will have in school, and even then it may not be a viable option.

The school day will continue to be from 8.45am until 3.30pm

Below is a link to the 'Closure of educational settings: information for parents and carers' published on the 19th March 2020. Please take some time to read through:

[Closure of educational settings](#)

Also I have attached the keyworkers list:

[List of keyworkers](#)

We have already sent home exercise books for the children to use and in some years groups other resources too. On Monday morning each week, we will endeavour to update all year group pages with a planner for the week which you are all welcome to follow at home. This will also be emailed to you.

An example of what each weekly planner will look like is shown below:

Kings Worthy Primary School

Year 6 – week beginning 23rd March

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Read for at least twenty minutes each day.Choose an activity each day from the reading rainbow activities.
Handwriting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Choose an extract from the book you have read each day (this may be a sentence or a longer paragraph). Copy the extract out in your neatest handwriting making sure to spell the words you are copying correctly.
Writing	<p>By the end of this week you will have a published final copy of a newspaper article. Use the following steps to help you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Research and identify what makes a good newspaper article. What features should it have? Make a newspaper article checklist to help you when writing your own.Begin to plan what your newspaper article is about. You may want to write an article about the airships in <u>Cogheart</u>, something that interests you (a particular historical event, your last football game) or something made up! When planning, begin to organise the layout of your report and make short notes about what you will include in each section. Identify what pictures and captions you will use and where they will be placed.Begin to draft your article and write it in full sentences. Try to use a full range of punctuation and language that makes the reader want to carry on reading. Don't forget a catchy, snappy headline!Edit and improve your article. The Year 6 writing tips and skills document is on the website on our class page for you to refer to.Make a neat, final copy of your finished newspaper article. Share it with someone at home and ask them to give you some feedback. What have you done well? What could you do to make it even better?
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none">On the website there are two arithmetic papers. Copy the questions into your book/onto a piece of paper and try to answer them. Use the answer sheet at the back to mark your answers and correct any questions where you may have made an error.Play 'Nice or Nasty'. The instructions and a recording sheet are on our class page on the website. You can copy the recording sheet onto some paper to help you record your game.Complete three purple mask tasks.Explore some games and investigations on https://nrich.maths.org/primary
Curriculum Task	This week we will look at a Science topic. We have been learning about Evolution and Inheritance at school and would like you to research and find out more about a famous scientist figure. You can choose between Charles Darwin 1809-1882 or Mary Anning 1799-1847 or you may like to find out about both! You can use these links to start your research off: https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/true-stories-mary-anning/zn7gd6f https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/2L3mmGh5hbpXXBH1PPbD0y/charles-darwin-evolution-and-natural-selection Present your research in your own way – a biography, a poster, a creative way of your own!

I know that everything we do will not please everyone over the coming days and weeks, but this is uncharted territory for all of us and we will continue to be here for all of you if and when you have questions or concerns. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school either through email or phone call. We will do our best to answer all enquiries.

I will still send out a weekly newsletter so that you are all updated as to what is going on each week.

Finally, I wish all of you a very healthy weekend and my thoughts are with each and every one of you. I can't wait until this all disappears from our daily lives and that I will be welcoming you all back sooner rather than later.

Jamie Dodson

Headteacher