

The Blue Letter: 1st May 2020



Dear Parents/Carers ,

It seems incredible that it is May already. I'm really lucky that my daily walks take me either along the river bank or up onto The Downs. I've enjoyed seeing the bluebells in the local woods and I've spotted a swan nesting on one the river banks.



I hope you've had chance to look at the video message from the staff on our school website. We continue to enjoy hearing messages from you about the work that is happening at home and how you all are.

We hope we are giving you a good range of activities to do with a balance of work that needs a screen, along with options for off screen work. If you have any feedback to share about how you are finding it, do let us know. Any work that is emailed to us, we are printing and displaying in school. See the last page of the Blue Letter for some images that we've received. Next week is a four day week with a Bank Holiday on Friday - teachers will be setting four days of work for maths and English. The wider curriculum work will still be available as it covers all of this half term. We will also add some VE day ideas to the whole school section for you to use on Friday if you would like. Don't forget about the Picture News and Worship@home activities if you are looking for other ideas.

There are extra pages to this week's Blue Letter so that we can tell you about some charity events that you might want to support as well as sharing some of the fantastic home learning with you.

Worship@home

Our theme for next week is Joy and our bible verse is 1 Thessalonians: 16-18

"Always be full of joy. Never stop praying. Whatever happens, always be thankful. This is how God wants you to live in Christ Jesus"

What do you think of when you hear the word 'joy'? Perhaps it's something which delights you, or how different people respond when they are full of joy. I think of people dancing, jumping, singing, smiling and laughing. There is a well-known phrase: 'Every cloud has a silver lining'. This verse from 1 Thessalonians has a similar theme – in all times, in all places, it is important to be thankful for all good things and rejoice. This week, how can you be joyful and help others to dance, sing and smile?



Look at the website whole school section of the home learning pages for ideas linked to this week's verse and theme. Can you complete any of them?

We'd love to see how you get on.....

Dress up for Dementia day

Dementia Support are asking children to Dress for Dementia as their favourite Superhero or their very own Superhero creation, to raise money for Dementia Support in Tangmere.

All they need to do is:

Wear their Superhero costume on Thursday 7th May; (Superman, Batman, Spider-man, Wonder Woman etc), or why not have a go at making their own...Anything goes!! Be as imaginative as they can.

Take a photo and send it to fundraising@dementia-support.org.uk or post on your Facebook page and tag @DementiaSupport.

They suggest a donation of £1 for dressing up, family and friends can also donate to support their creative efforts.

There are various ways to donate through the following options:

Families can donate directly to through our TotalGiving Charity Page: <https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/mypage/SuperheroDay>

Text D4D1 to 70085 to donate £1. Texts cost £1 plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about their work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £1 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text D4DNOINFO to 70085. To give another amount simply text D4D plus the amount you would like to donate to 70085 e.g D4D3 to donate £3.

Above all...HAVE FUN!!

Dementia Support is a young and ambitious charity, working to change the way people with dementia are supported. Our vision is a society where dementia is understood and accepted, enabling people living with dementia to be fully supported throughout the whole of their journey. Your donation helps us achieve this and allows us to continue to provide vital support to those living with dementia, who require it now more than ever, in ways such as our remote Wayfinding and Befriending services, and our dementia-friendly activity packs to name a few!



Charity Support

Huge well done to Thomas from year 5 who completed a 4km family walk around the West Dean Estate last week. I am told it is rather steep in parts and of course Thomas' family had his brother Matthew in his wheelchair. The walk was to support PACSO who provide support for families with children with disabilities. Thomas's Mum says

"We completed the walk in 1 hr and 11 mins whilst taking in views. Thomas was brilliant! He didn't complain once despite the fact it was hot and hard work, he knew what this meant for a charity like PACSO. We managed to raise £220 which was only £60 of our target!" If you would like to support them, they have a justgiving page . [https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/vicki-arthur2?](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/vicki-arthur2?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=vicki-arthur2&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=76782ce85f604da5beb194fccc6e517e)

[utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=vicki-arthur2&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=76782ce85f604da5beb194fccc6e517e](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/vicki-arthur2?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=vicki-arthur2&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=76782ce85f604da5beb194fccc6e517e)



Mrs Sheehan's Snowdon Trek

This May Mrs Sheehan was due undertake the 'Snowdon Day Trek' challenge on the 29th May for the Alzheimers Society. Obviously this is no longer happening in May but has been postponed to the start of September. If you would like to support Mrs Sheehan then this is the link to her fundraising page. <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/snowdondaychallenge2020-traceysheehan>



Information from West Sussex Libraries



Libraries may currently be closed but their online offer is very much thriving. They have dedicated children's activities, home learning and wellbeing resources available and their eBook and eAudio offer is proving equally popular, so much so that they have added 1,300 extra eBooks and 450 eAudio titles to their existing collection. Also, around 32,000 newspapers and magazines are being downloaded each week too. Along with their range of children's eBooks and eAudio they have a vast eComic collection all completely free of charge, simply sign in with your library card (families can join the Library Service online if they are not currently members).

Families can keep up to date with library news through their social media pages - Twitter @WSCCLibraries and Facebook WestSussexLibraries. They are also very excited as they launched a new Facebook group for families, West Sussex Libraries – Family Corner last week and they would love for you to join them. The group, aimed at parents, grandparents, carers and childcare professionals, highlights some of the fantastic children's activities and products they have as part of their current offer, including their popular staff rhyme time and Storytime videos, plus links to children's learning and their range of wellbeing resources. This Friday 1 May they will also be offering something special as part of Bookstart's Pyjamarama celebrations so check out the group to see what is happening! They may not be in our buildings at the moment but they are still busy planning for the Summer Reading Challenge so as soon as they have more information we shall share it with you.

Sumdog and Letterjoin

If you are looking for extra ideas for things your child can do at home, we have subscriptions with both Letterjoin and Sumdog. I shared the letterjoin password via email earlier this week. I

Letterjoin is great for practising handwriting skills and works on laptop, tablet or mobile phone. There are videos that show the correct formation and joins for the letters. Spelling lists can be entered in the worksheet function in the resources. This creates a worksheet to help practice the spellings and handwriting.



Sumdog has maths games and competitions, where children can compete against each other. They have also opened up access to some other the other areas of their website. If your child can't remember their Sumdog login details, do email or phone the school and we'll let you have them.

Letter-join 
Joined-up handwriting made easy!

A River's Journey by Nina Luff

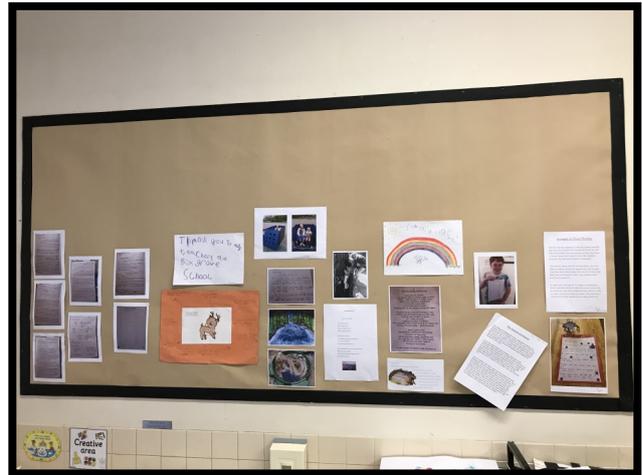
*Down from the heavens,
I was released from the swollen puffs of cloud.
Quickly, I glide through a V-shaped valley
Rippling and meandering magnificently.
Rushing over rough rocks
Jumping from bank to bank
Playfully weaving and darting amongst the ripples.*

*Plunging through cracks of humangous racks.
Sweeping past tall towering trees on either side.
Grabbing large handfuls of stones
As I snake and gush,
Dragging the stones unwillingly
Past a forgotten, down turned smile of an oxbow lake.
Growing with every eddy- I flood and swell.*

*I start to slow down.
My boisterous, beastly behaviour fading.
My waist line expanding,
Like an over-eating greedy, gluttonous pig.
As I meet the river mouth, I open my lips
And the salty sea water spills in
Dancing on my tongue.*

I'm free at last, no banks to stop me being me.

Home learning



Both Nina (left) and Luke (below) have written river poems

Our display in school of home learning

The river

walking through the yellow and green,



Still today some lay unseen.

Even now there was no hope,

Tumbling down the massive slope.

A massive big blue pool or the sea

was what she wanted to see.

Finally she came to a rest,

Right beside a robin's nest.



Isla has been busy making biscuits.



Mark is really enjoying using mymaths to improve his number knowledge