



St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Armstrong
Diocese of Plymouth

3rd April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to keep you updated with things that are going on in school and to support you at home. This week in school we have supported the children of critical key workers and some vulnerable children. This emergency childcare is very much appreciated and I wanted to say a special thank you to those staff that have been in school providing this. Here are some of the special messages that we have received which have made it all worthwhile:

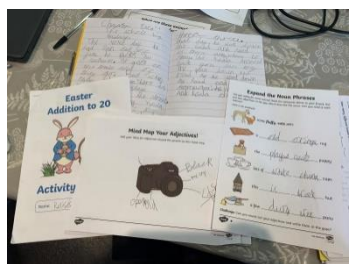
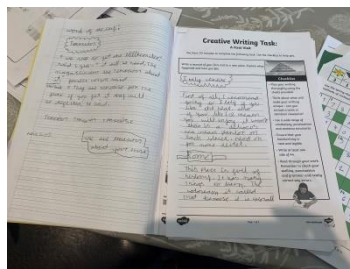
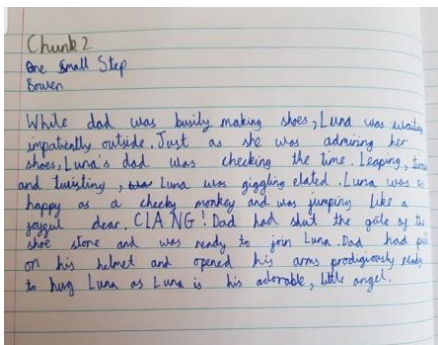
"In the mean time we would like to say thank you to the whole staff of the school for still working at this time and for looking after the children of all the keyworkers. We are deeply grateful."

"A big thank you to all at the school for the arrangements for child care. It has been hugely helpful in enabling myself, as a nurse, to do my small bit in the fight against the Corona virus."

It has been fantastic this week to see all the different work that has been sent in by email. I imagine that working yourself and trying to ensure the home learning is completed must be very tricky! I am lucky as my girls are much older but I am sure you are all doing an amazing job. I know some of you have asked for extra help and suggestions and this is really great as a result we have set up a specific email support@st-marys.poole.sch.uk where you can send in examples of your child's work, ask for passwords and ask any questions about the work. These emails will be directed to the correct person.

Here are some examples of the amazing pictures we have had this week. Mr Lakatos said "It's really lovely to see but makes me miss my class more.... "

And here is a lovely response from a parent "Thank you very much for the lovely message. This, along with the regular messages on Marvellous Me, is really helping with *****'s positive mindset and motivation."



As I sit and watch him write
I think about the sun so bright.
I miss going out in the rain
I miss standing and watching a plane.
I don't really know what I'll do
I think he's thinking this too.
For now I guess we'll wait and see
What happens next to him and me.

Oliver – 5W

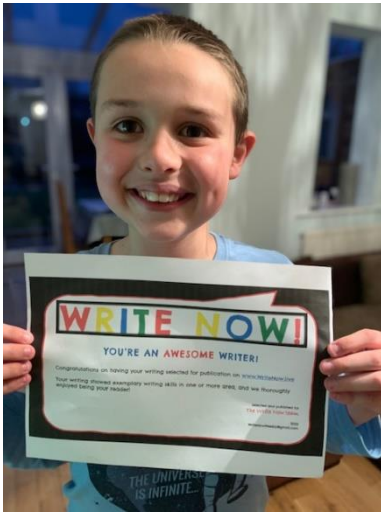
"Inspiring each other to learn, in the light of Christ"

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Dear Michael Morpurgo,

I have heard all about you especially your magnificent achievements. You have inspired me to read more and appreciate books. I have read a few of your books and nothing is stopping me to carry on. I love all the vocabulary you use in your interesting stories. At the moment we are stuck indoors and your books help me survive the boredom. I have been reading your books and agree that when this virus has disappeared our world could be a kinder place.

Mia Franca Zengeni



Perfect picture!

Question sheet

Which animal would be best to work in the forest?

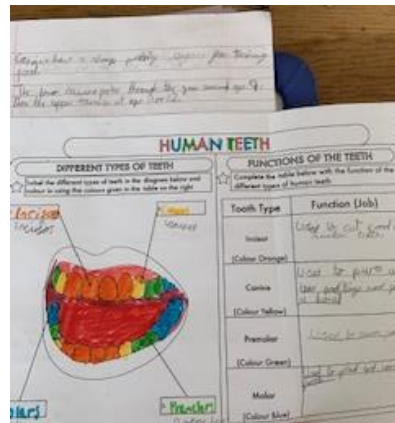
Can you give suggestions as to the occupations of the other animals in the picture?

If you could have one job, what would it be and why?

What problems might they encounter in the forest? How do you think they would solve them?

Do these animals have any special skills? How do you think they would use them?

I would say that my favourite animal is the squirrel because they are not afraid of people and they have a lot of nuts to eat. I think a cat would be a good job because they are not afraid of people and they have a lot of mice to eat.



Dear mother and father

Just a line or two to let you know we are quite safe. After our terrible experience one would have never expected this floating palace to down like this.

April 10th 1912. We set off boarding onto the floating palace some passengers saying their last goodbye. One can remember saying fare well to you. No one thought that it would end like it did.

We boarded the boat with smiles on our faces we were reassured that this boat would never sink. First class was amazing; gold gates, champagne and waiters everywhere. You couldn't have a complaint; the rooms were luxury, bigger than houses. I couldn't think of a better way to spend my time. That day hundreds of people boarded the boat.

We set of with not a bad thought in our head engines were steaming like lightning nothing could stop us 5 luxury days we spent on the ship I couldn't have wished for anything better Millvina was happy and so were the children (Lizzie and Emily)

April 15th 1912 midnight struck everyone was happy. Suddenly everything shook. Fear came to me, what was this...

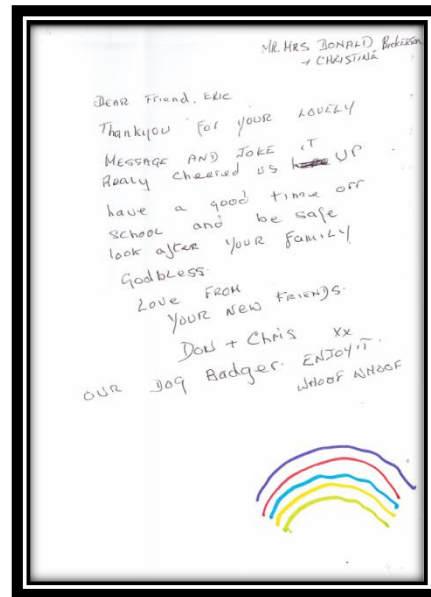
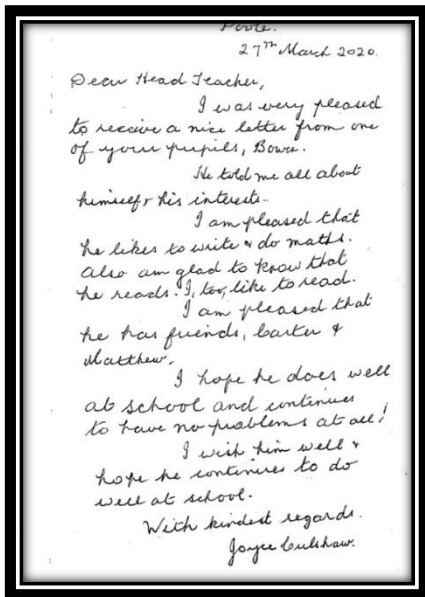
Spend time together over the Easter break and remember, though this is a scary time, it could very well be a time the children remember as the best time in their life. Why not:

- Do a puzzle
- Build a fort
- Bake
- Watch TV together
- Paint
- Get out the Lego and build together
- Set up a tent in your living room and camp out
- Look at photos of you when you were a child



After Easter the Foundation stage children will continue to use Tapestry as their platform to access learning ideas to stay in touch with their teachers. Years 1-6 will have Google Classroom. All the passwords are currently being set up for the children and these will be sent to you. Each week on Google Classrooms the teachers will set work for the children to complete. The teachers are all working hard to get all of this set up. Hopefully we will make this process as smooth and as stress free as possible.

Before school closed our Year 4 children sent letters to members of the parish who were self isolating we have had some lovely responses:



Here is another way we can help - #StrongerTogether Enjoy writing? Like painting? Love creating videos?

Stronger Together are calling on children to get involved and share their wonderful creations with the owners of their retirement homes to help combat loneliness and keep spirits high! The owners would love to receive a letter, a story or poem, or even a video message to enjoy whilst staying safe and isolating indoors. If you'd like to take part then please send a photo/scan of your creations to strongertogether@lifestory.group or parents and carers can share them with on Instagram or Facebook [lifestory.group](https://www.facebook.com/lifestory.group).

Don't forget about the access to this week's Sunday Liturgy which can be accessed and used by all our families at this time when we cannot go to Mass on a Sunday. <https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/primary-subscription/prayers-for-home/sunday-liturgy-for-families/>

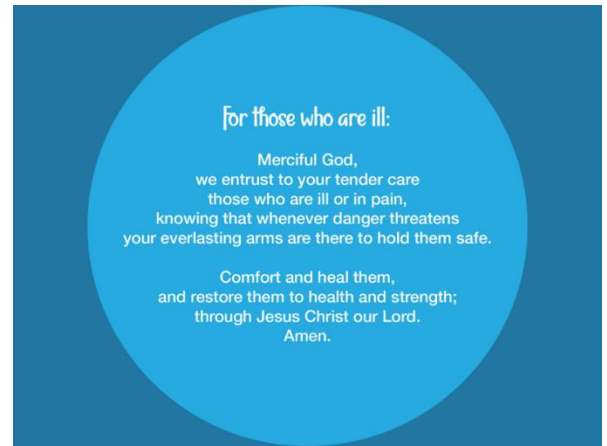
Home
Primary
Secondary
Recruitment
Contact

Welcome!

- Before you begin, **gather the family together**. This might be in the same room or if you are in different places, you might gather online, using Skype, for example.
- Decide who is going to be **Prayer Leader**. You could have more than one Prayer Leader. The Prayer Leader should **read aloud** all of the text on screen where indicated.
- **Everybody else** should read the parts where indicated.
- You may like to light a candle to mark the start of your Family Liturgy.
- Click 'Read more' to start the service.

This week I chose to include this prayer and I ask you to remember Mrs Eunice Masters one of our dedicated Foundation Governors who is in hospital recovering following a stroke at the beginning of the week. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Deacon Nick emailed me with a suggestion of a virtual Easter Bonnet Parade, so get thinking and preparing. Mrs Jones will be sending out more details next week.



For those who are ill:

Merciful God,
we entrust to your tender care
those who are ill or in pain,
knowing that whenever danger threatens
your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe.

Comfort and heal them,
and restore them to health and strength;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Please stay in touch with us via email even over the Easter break and remember to send in things that you want to share with us. Most importantly please stay safe and positive and have a peaceful Easter Break. I will continue to keep you all in my prayers at this difficult time.

Yours faithfully,

Helen Armstrong

Helen Armstrong
Headteacher