



## **Newsletter Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

### **MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD**

The last fortnight seems to have flown by as providing childcare in school has become the new normal. It feels very strange to have around a dozen children where there used to be 300.

I would like to say many thank you's in this piece because I am overwhelmed by how well everyone is pulling together as we try to work a way through these unprecedented circumstances. The school is open to provide childcare for our pupils who have parents as critical workers and for whom there is no other choice but to send them in. Thank you to you as families for not trying to abuse this situation, it is vital that we have as few children in as possible in order to minimise the risk of spreading covid-19. Thank you to the staff who when not working from home have freely volunteered to come in to provide activities within our childcare setting and to do the essential things such as opening and cleaning the building as well as providing food for our free school meal pupils. Thank you to the office staff for working tirelessly behind the scenes dealing with emails and enquiries. Thank you to Mr Bradley and Miss Barrows for running our Twitter and Facebook accounts. They are providing a wonderful insight into how you are spending your time in isolation. Our school was set up in the 1850's to serve our community and I hope that we are continuing to do this in the 21st century.

I am sure that you have accessed the raft of activities available to the children on the school website. Please don't get stressed about whether you have to do this work or that work, we are in new territory here and we all need to find a way forwards in this difficult time. How things are done will be different in every household and will often be different from one day to the next. Try to do some Maths and some Reading every day and on most days a bit of writing. Some days it just won't happen and this is completely okay. We will continue to post links and work with the aim of helping you. Don't think that you have to do it all or that you have to stick with what we suggest. A project upon something that fascinates your child will develop many more skills than making them do work on a subject that he or she is bored by.

It felt extremely strange to realise at 10:00 this morning that we should have been having our Easter assemblies in church at that moment. On behalf of all of the staff, may I wish you all a very happy Easter, please stay safe at this most difficult time.

## **HOUSE CHALLENGES**

Our house challenges are up and running! It was wonderful to get so many rainbow pictures sent in, and this week we are all writing Spring poems. Please keep a lookout on the school website for yours. Next week...it's an Easter bonnet parade! Make an Easter bonnet for your favourite cuddly toy, email a picture to Mr Bradley and then put your cuddly in your window for all to see! Don't forget to add your name and house to your email to collect your housepoints.

The school website will hopefully evolve over the next few weeks. There will be weekly tasks to email to teachers and hopefully entertaining house challenges. There are also links to other websites that might provide inspiration as we all look to keep learning and busy. Mr Bradley will keep adding interesting photos to the website, and try to add to our school Twitter feed (@ChurAscen1). Don't forget to keep reading and keep mathematics up and running.

<http://www.chur-ascen.dudley.sch.uk/index.php/school-closure/>

Mr Bradley is looking forward to finding out what you have been up to...and maybe you can let him know if you have found any useful websites along the way!

Email: [cbradley@chur-ascen.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:cbradley@chur-ascen.dudley.sch.uk)

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## **MUSIC TUITION**

Information has been sent out for those children who currently receive music lessons from Dudley Performing Arts to enable them to continue their lessons online. If you haven't received this email, please contact us on

[info@chur-ascen.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:info@chur-ascen.dudley.sch.uk) and we will resend it.

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