

THE HAMLET HERALD



'Outstanding learning, within a glittering curriculum, where everyone matters'

ISSUE 25 | 20th March 2020

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HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

This is a very strange HH to be writing to you all!

Can I start by thanking our incredible community: Your kindness, appreciation, and generosity has been overwhelming, and has been making a difficult time much easier for us all. While I haven't been able to respond to all emails personally, please be assured that I have read them, and we have noted your offers of support as we move forward into unknown territory.

I also want to thank our dedicated DHJS team. They have gone 'beyond' the usual 'going beyond' these last couple of weeks. Their professionalism, willingness and flexibility to 'muck-in' over this period of uncertainty, while coping with their own family circumstances, is very special indeed.

I also want to thank our Hamleteers. It is because of them that we do what we do. We are going to miss them as a whole group terribly, and hope that it won't be too long before we are able to be back together again.

With very best wishes to you all. Claire

DHJS EASTER EGG 'COMPETITION'

Normally at this time in the year we launch our Easter Egg competition; a much-loved tradition of the Hamlet. Why don't you still do this at home! We're setting out the parameters below. We'd love to see your creations being tweeted from Monday 30th March. We'll send you a reminder.

- ONE decorated egg, in a container no larger than 30cm x 30cm
- Attractive or witty!
- Hard boiled or blown eggs
- Created by Hamleteer only!



ANNUAL REPORTS PART 1

We have been able to bring forward disseminating your child's Annual Report Part 1, and you will find them in the book bags today. There is a covering letter explaining the content in detail. We hope you enjoy reading about your child's achievements to date.

KEY DATES

Monday 23rd March

School closed to majority of pupils until further notice.

HAPPY NEWS!

Many congratulations must go to Mr and Mrs Mulema who have recently welcomed a new baby girl. Both baby girl Esther and mum are doing well.

SPORT RELIEF & READ-A-THON

A massive thank you for all your support with our recent fund-raising last week. We will tweet our Sport Relief total as soon as we have totted it up. Thank you to all those who had a guess at the Sport Relief game. Several of you made intelligent guesses at what the picture might be: it was in fact a ballet shoe! The children also raised £348.50 from their sponsored read. This money will provide new books and author visits for children in hospitals across the UK.



OUR HEALTHY STREETS - PHASE 3

We have been asked by our local Cllrs to remind you that the deadline is fast approaching if you wish to submit your response.

All of the information is available on the Southwark website: <https://consultations.southwark.gov.uk/environment-leisure/our-healthy-streets-dulwich-phase-3/> where you can give your views via an online survey.

WEEKLY HOUSE POINTS

Topaz Water	Ruby Fire	Garnet Earth	Sapphire Air
YOU ARE ALL WINNERS!!!!!!!!!!			

DHJS HOME-SCHOOLING ARRANGEMENTS COVID-19

From Monday 23rd March 2020, school will ONLY be open for identified children and those of Key Workers, as listed by the government. We will be sending a separate communication to those families concerned. During this time, we are providing parents and carers with home learning activities and tasks. These activities will mirror the activities we are providing to the children coming to school. **We have compiled a short-term pack of work that will take your child comfortably up to the normal Easter break. Following this, we will be adopting our longer-term home learning strategy which will consist of weekly activities for each year group. These will be posted on the website on a weekly basis.**

Our new '[Home Learning](#)' web page under the *parents* tab will be your 'one stop shop' for our home learning programme. This is constantly being added to and revised. Links to all of the information described below can be found on this web page. You have been sent home with hard copies of some of these documents today for your ease of reference.

For any child who is not in school today, we will provide you with an opportunity to come and collect your child's 'pack', along with other personal items: musical instruments, PE kit, and medical bags. Please look out for a communication regarding this early next week when we will invite you to come and collect.

Short-Term Home Learning Plan (until Easter holidays 2020):

- Your child has been sent home with both a blank English and Maths exercise book to record learning
- Firstly, look at the Homework Policy, then use the blank timetable to schedule daily activities in agreement with your child. Some of you have asked for a scaffold. We have included a mock-up timetable as a guide
- Reading: 30 minutes per day - can be your child's reading book or a suitable non-fiction text. Your child has been sent home with a couple of library books to get you started. Discuss any tricky vocabulary and make sure your child has a deep understanding of the text. Fill in the reading record, then use what you have read to inspire a writing activity.
- Spellings: Each day learn some spellings from this week, some from last week and some from last term. See the year group spelling letter for weekly lists and suggested activities.
- Maths: Doodle 7-a-day (20 minutes independent work) followed by the 'new learning content' which ideally should be worked through with an adult. TTRS every day (10 minutes)
- Knowledge Organisers: you can use these as a basis for a quiz, but also to inspire more exciting home-learning activities that you can do with your child.
- Humanities Projects: Year's 3-5 have a humanities project to research and complete. They have been provided with an A2 piece of card to present their work in an exciting and creative way.
- Year 6 have their Holiday Reading Project to enjoy and complete.
- We have provided our April and May STEAM questions of the month for the children to research
- Our Learning Grids : each year group has their Summer 1 half-termly grid with further ideas suitable for activities at home.
- Music: we expect all of our young instrumentalists to maintain their regular practice. During this time, practice can certainly be stepped-up, with a minimum of 10 minutes three times a week. Children can be encouraged to play current pieces, old favourites, and any new repertoire they wish to try. They can even compose their own pieces!
- Physical activity: a great way to start the day/add variety to the day is to do something physical (recommended 60 minutes a day). Think about going for a run, using a skipping rope or ball, and where safe and appropriate, use your stairs! Please make use of these websites for some suggested physical exercise at home to get you moving <https://www.thoughtco.com/physical-education-for-homeschool-kids1833440> <https://primarypeplanning.com/home-pe/>
- Coding: Each child has a class code and login for [code.org](#). (See below) This is a very comprehensive website that progresses children through various elements of coding. The website can be used without logging in, but progress will not be saved. Contact class teachers or Miss Campbell (scampbell17.210@lgflmail.org) if you have misplaced your password.

During the next two weeks, staff will be preparing our longer-term home learning programme which we will post after the normal Easter holidays. We will also be finalising other logistical matters, including how we are able to communicate with you on an ongoing basis. At the moment, we still have so many questions to answer and challenges to overcome ourselves. We kindly ask that you are patient with us during this time. With thanks.

Coronavirus; supporting children's wellbeing

Wellbeing tips for families:

- Talk to your children, and answer their questions. Ask about what they have heard about the virus and the situation so that you can correct possible misconceptions and reassure them.
- Avoid being too immersed in media coverage. Be mindful of the amount of things you are reading and watching, including social media – as this may add to worry and anxiety. Consider a few updates every day from trusted sources.
- Remember that people react differently to significant events. Some people – adults and children – may feel worried, some excited, some nothing much at all. Be reassured that different reactions are normal and ok.
- If your child seems worried, it may be good to distract themselves with something that takes their mind off their worries. You might also want to set aside 10-15 minutes each day for them to talk about any worries, and to reassure them.
- Remember to keep things positive and give children hope. For example, tell children that now many people are working to make this better and that even though it is serious, everyone is doing their best to help people.
- Try to keep familiar routines. Well-known routines in everyday life provide security and stability.
- Do nice things together, and keep active. Make a plan and suggest some regular family times where you can play games, do some exercise together, or do other things that you know most of you like. Try to find a good balance between time together, and screen time.
- Keep in good contact with family and friends (via Facetime, Skype WhatsApp etc.; following nhs guidance on 'social contact'). This will help children connect with others and know that others are thinking about them. It will also reassure them that others are well.
- As a parent you may be concerned yourself. Take care of yourself and make sure you have breaks, time to relax, and ask for help from others if you need.

Some useful links:

NHS advice:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Talking to children about Coronavirus

Advice on talking to children about Coronavirus, by British Psychological Society:

<https://www.bps.org.uk/sites/www.bps.org.uk/files/Policy/Policy%20-%20Files/Talking%20to%20children%20about%20Coronavirus.pdf>

How to talk to your child about coronavirus, by Unicef:

<https://www.unicef.org/coronavirus/how-talk-your-child-about-coronavirus-covid-19>

Child-friendly explanation of Coronavirus for Primary age students:

https://660919d3-b85b-43c3-a3ad-3de6a9d37099.filesusr.com/ugd/64c685_319c5acf38d34604b537ac9fae37fc80.pdf

Information video on Coronavirus for Primary age children (KS2), by Brainpop:

<https://www.brainpop.com/health/diseasesinjuriesandconditions/coronavirus/>

Information video on Coronavirus for older children/adults, by WHO:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mOV1aBVYKGA&feature=youtu.be>

Your wellbeing

Coronavirus and your wellbeing, by Mind UK:

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/>

5 ways to wellbeing, by Mindkit:

<https://www.mindkit.org.uk/5-ways-to-wellbeing/>

Note: as the situation and sources of information are developing, the above tips and links may be updated.

With thanks to Harrow Educational Psychology Service for sharing resources.