



FOUR OAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Edge Hill Road, Sutton Coldfield, B74 4PA
"A Four Oaks Learning Trust for Excellence School"
"A Four Oaks Cluster School"

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Easter Newsletter

Dear Parents,

We hope that you and your family are keeping well and that the first couple of weeks of having the children at home during the day has gone well.

School Life



For the last two weeks the school has stayed open for the children of key workers and will continue to do so over the Easter holidays, and stringent measures have been put in place to ensure cleanliness and social distancing.

We have been grateful that where possible even parents who are key workers have been able to make alternative child care arrangements, making the social distancing even more effective.

Learning at Home



We hope you are finding the distance learning tasks on WordPress for each year group useful and a good way of structuring the children's time during these strange circumstances. It is important to us all that these tasks are meaningful and manageable, and wherever possible activities that you can get involved in as well. Research indicates that instant feedback has the most benefit for children, so please be positive and supportive of the children as they complete any activities, which I know you will be.

With the likelihood of the current situation continuing for some time, it is not feasible that this work will be marked, but children bringing examples of their completed work back with them, on their return to school, will be rewarded with Smiley Faces or House Points.

We understand that trying to facilitate children's learning at home can be challenging and it is important to acknowledge that this is not Home Schooling; this is an unprecedented emergency situation impacting on the whole world and everyone is adapting and trying their best. In response to the unusual situation we are currently facing, there have been a wealth of resources and materials for children and families shared over social media and various websites in recent days. Lots of these are very positive, but we are conscious how overwhelming this can be, so we have continued to provide an overview for the curriculum, with key tasks to focus on.

Don't Panic!



We are keen to support you to make learning at home manageable for all involved and recognise the pressures on families with parents trying to work from home, share devices and

facilitate the children's learning all at the same time- which is a huge challenge! We have tried to make as many of the activities independent as we can.

After the Easter break we will continue to set activity ideas via WordPress to help your child maintain a sense of routine, but please don't feel under pressure to complete every activity – they are not compulsory. Please be reassured that when the children return to school we will adapt our teaching accordingly to take into consideration the break in school learning and the areas of the curriculum which have not been covered in school.

It is important to note, we will not be setting any work on WordPress over the Easter holiday. This is a time for a complete rest and recuperation, hopefully as far as work commitments will permit, for the whole family.

The Importance of Family



At Four Oaks, being part of a family is a really strong ethos of our school and we want to ensure we stay in regular contact. We have enjoyed the messages we have received via Twitter and I know how much the teachers have loved seeing the results of some of the children's endeavours. From the week beginning 20th April, the school staff will be telephoning our families on a fortnightly basis again. This isn't to check up on work, it is so we can keep in touch, have a chat to the children, share news and answer any questions they or you may have.

If you as parents have any concerns or important news to communicate to us then you can access the school office and senior leaders via enquiry@fouroaksprimary.bham.sch.uk.

As the sun has decided to shine at the moment, please make the most of it, encouraging the children to go out in to the back garden. Outdoor play, nature hunts in the garden, reading outside, making dens and gardening are also great learning opportunities. This time at home offers a great opportunity to promote reading for the well-being of the whole family. Whilst looking after your children please remember to look after yourselves too.

It is a really unsettling time for everyone, but one of the positives to come out of this is the community spirit, thinking of others, and acts of kindness, and long may that continue when we get through this difficult period.

None of us are sure how long our present circumstances are going to last but here at school we will endeavour to keep in touch with all of our families and cross our fingers that we are all back together in school before too long.

With our very best wishes,

Everyone at Four Oaks Primary