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PRIMARY (FOUNDATION) SCHOOL

Thursday 19th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

School closure

Public Health England have decided that our school needs to close until further notice to try and delay the spread of COVID -19.

We would like Friars children to continue with their learning at home, so we are providing parents with work to be completed at home. The majority of these can be accessed online. All the relevant passwords will be put on inside the front cover of your child's homework book. They can use this book to complete a range of activities. They also have a copy of their curriculum for this term – Spring 2. When accessing online resources try and look for activities that relate to the curriculum information on our website.

General resources:

- **Friars website:** <http://friarsprimaryschool.com/> please go to the “pupils” tab on the home page and navigate to your child's class page as well as the Kids zone that has lots of free online resources.
- **BBC Bitesize:** this is a free resource that covers all national curriculum subjects with games, activities and other resources. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>
- **LGFL.** We are providing children with an LGFL password. This learning platform has activities that match all curriculum areas. 'Busy Things' is one popular choice for primary age children.
- **Discovery Education (formerly Espresso).** This has plenty of online activities and videos.
 - Our username is: student21255 Password: Friars
- **Twinkl** – Twinkl will charge a fee but they are offering a month of free access to parents in the event of school closures. <https://www.twinkl.co.uk> Twinkl is an excellent educational resource that can provide activities for any curriculum subject. Just use the search bar and include your child's year group to search for age appropriate activities.

Maths

- **Mathletics:** All children to continue with Mathletics work that has been set. They should aim to complete at least two activities per day.
- **Timetables:** KS2 children should continue to continue to practise their times tables in their times table books. The website <http://www.snappymaths.com/> is free and has lots of resources for all the times tables.
- **Khan Academy:** good for maths and computing skills www.khanacademy.org
- **Classroom secrets:** free resources and activities broken into separate year groups <https://kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk>

English

- **Reading:** Children will be bringing home books from their class libraries. They Accelerated Reader passwords are in their books. Here is the link: <https://ukhosted103.renlearn.co.uk/6707034/>. Please try and keep them reading every day and if you are able to share books between friends and family please do so. We would like children to write book reviews of the books they have read and there are sample book review templates on the Twinkl website.
- **Phonics:** <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> is a site which has several free interactive **phonics** games, ideas and resources.
- **Writing:** Children can keep a daily journal/diary in their homework books. They can write about what they have done each day, how they feel etc. They can also use the books to write and create stories, poems, reports and other types of writing.
- **Spelling:** We have just subscribed to a new website called Spelling frame: <https://spellingframe.co.uk/>. Some children will have used this in school. There are many spelling games. Just click on the correct Year Group and children can choose a game to practise any of the spelling rules for their year group.



History/Geography/Science/Art/Computing:

Each class will be given a question to explore or specific activities that refer to current or future learning. They are posted on the class pages on our school's website. Children could create a power point, build a model, create a boardgame, draw a picture, write a report etc. to show their findings in a format that they choose.

Below is also a list of subject specific websites that offer lots of resources and activities:

- National Geographic Kids – www.natgeokids.com.uk
- Mystery science – free science lessons <https://mysteryscience.com>
- Tinkercad – all kinds of making activities <https://www.tinkercad.com>
- Red Ted Art – easy arts and crafts <https://www.redtedart.com>
- <https://blockly.games> – fun and free computer programming skills

When the school is ready to be open again we will let you know by text message and on the school's website. We have also set up a specific email address to help with queries about the school closure. It is schoolclosurequeries@friars.southwark.sch.uk. In addition, please do keep looking at the website as we will be giving regular updates about relevant information regarding school closures.

We fully understand that this is a difficult time for all communities and that there may be some anxiety about you having to take on the role of being a teacher as well as a parent! However, if you can get your children into some regular routines while they are at home it will help you and them greatly. Try and give them set times when they do particular activities.

We would also like to sign post parents to several other agencies that can offer support at this difficult time.

Food banks:

There are a number of food banks operating in the borough that can support families:

- **Southwark Foodbank (PECAN)** - 020 773 20007 / <https://www.pecan.org.uk/southwark-foodbank>. Five centres operating in the borough with opening times and locations listed on its website.
- **Oasis Foodbank** - 0207 357 7331 has one distribution centre in Southwark at St George The Martyr Church. Borough High St, London, SE1 1JA
- **Camberwell Community Fridge** – 020 7737 6186 / Albrighton Centre. Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
- **The Borough Free Fridge** – 02073577331 / St George The Martyr Church, Borough High Street, SE1 1JA. Open Tuesday afternoon, 2-5pm.

Children's safety:

Any parent with a safeguarding concern can contact the Southwark Multi-Agency **Safeguarding** Hub (MASH) to make a referral on 020 7525 1921. For an out of hours social worker, phone 020 7525 5000.

School nursing service:

General queries, advice and support:

School Nursing Service Hub / duty desk, Monday – Friday 9am-5pm (not including bank holidays) 0203 049 4777; gst.tr-schoolnursespe@nhs.net

Parent Line – 07520 631 130 Monday – Friday 9am-5pm (not including bank holidays)

<http://www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/parentline>

Parents can text a school nurse for any queries, support or advice such as:

- emotional health and wellbeing; keeping healthy; bedwetting; sleep; bullying; keeping safe; growing up; dental health

Emotional support:

Young Minds – for young people but they also have a Parents Helpline.

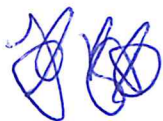
<http://www.youngminds.org.uk>

- Child Line – 0800 111

Support by phone, email or chat online to a counsellor.

<http://www.childline.org.uk>

Yours sincerely,



J. Burt