



Our school value this half term is: "service"

'Serve one another in love' Galatians 5.13

Notices

Welcome Back

Following on from my message on Friday, I'd like to welcome everyone back to school for the summer term. For most children, that continues to mean working at home and a very different type of school. However, I will continue to reiterate we are here for you all and to lead your children in their learning.

I am very aware of the challenges for everyone at this time and want to start this term by wishing you all well. Every family will have their own unique circumstances and I'd like to offer support to everyone who may need it, whatever that may be. If you are struggling with anything please **do get in touch** as sometimes even a conversation can help. I will get back to anyone with concerns. My overriding message for everyone at this time, above everything else, is to **follow Government advice** and to **keep safe and well**.

All the teachers are continuing to send work packs out to every child which is hopefully leading learning for children at home. As a school, we understand how different this is and the challenges it brings and as each week goes on we are continuing to evaluate how this is working. We have received positive feedback from many families regarding the home school support and ask that families continue to liaise with school regarding this and let us know any concerns.

In addition, there has been much publicity about a variety of resources for families and children to use at home that are published online. Whilst every resource published will have benefits, as a school we have decided to continue to lead learning for the children for a variety of reasons. This allows us the opportunity to **stay in close touch with the children, our teachers know them best and where they are in their learning** and it **will also allow us to work better with the children upon return to full school**. Having said that I realise the benefits of many resources produced and have included a link which takes you directly to the Government page highlighting online lessons and the **new online academy** should **you wish** to supplement our own Curriculum.

Please see PAGE 3 of the newsletter for relevant links.

I'm very mindful the potential overload of all the different resources available and hope that our teachers are helping with a clear structure for the day. However, supplementing this work with other activities if you wish is a decision that you can make for your child at home as we continue to work together in these unique times. I'd like to remind everyone that it is important not to become worried or anxious about school work and please contact me if you feel this is the case.

Finally, I am aware of the constant publicity around schools and when they will reopen. I'd like to reassure all of our families that I understand all of the issues connected with this as well as anyone. At this point it is important to listen to Government advice which is that **schools will remain closed at the moment**. No one knows when this will change but as soon as it does I can assure you we will be keeping everyone informed and updated.

Once again, I'd like to thank everyone for their support. Particularly the children who continue to inspire us all through their work. Seeing photographs of all the wonderful things going on has been particularly amazing and today we are launching a new photo initiative of children and families sending examples of the **help** and **service** they are doing at home! This fits in with our value of **service** this term which is most appropriate. Details of this can be seen on the **service update** in the newsletter section of the website. We look forward to seeing lots of examples.

Mr D Kennedy
Headteacher

Reminder of School Support During Closure

1. Our **e-mailing system** ensures we provide the children with work each day to **continue their learning** and keep in touch .
2. **School is open for Key workers** and continues to **be available for all families** should you need to contact us.
3. **#we're all in this together - our school is more than a building** . This part of our website reflects many of the wonderful things everyone is doing at home and allows our whole school community to share these experiences This can be viewed in the **parents** section of the website.
4. We are also providing **more regular updates** than just our weekly newsletter as things change and as we hope to keep everyone as up to date as possible with school life.
5. I have written an **open letter to all the children** which I have sent to them via their class emails and have published online in the newsletter section.
6. **'Born To Move' is a PE online resource** which everyone should now have a log on for.
7. links to a range of resources and online lessons to support families with home school. **Please see PAGE 3**



Children of Key workers

In line with Government guidance, we are continuing to arrange **emergency** care for children of key workers next week. We are continuing to organise this provision in our school with our staff between the hours of **8:45am and 3:30pm**.

Whilst school will continue to offer the emergency care, I ask all of our families to continue to support school by working within the government guidance '**when possible children should remain at home as this is the safest place for them.**' It is important children are not sent in unless absolutely necessary to comply with the social distancing regulations.

However, if you feel you will need the emergency care for your child, please email school at: **busar@aughtonchrstchurch.lancs.sch.uk** with the following information.

1. Please give the name(s) of your child (ren).
2. Please state the days over the next week that you will require care. We will need to know which days next week exactly you require emergency care as this will impact upon the arrangements that we need to put in place and allow us to ensure the safety of staff and children. Each Thursday we will ask you to confirm this for the week ahead.

It will be important to have this information by **tomorrow 5:00 pm at the latest**. We will then reply to your e:mail confirming the arrangements. **We are asking for this information each week as many factors change from week to week.**

If you have any concerns about these arrangements or do not hear about care we have organised for your child on Friday, please email or call school and I will discuss concerns with you.

Please remember we will be here to discuss any concerns you have.

Mr D Kennedy
Headteacher

Online Safety and Parent Information and support

As I've highlighted already, We'd like to remind all parents of the **importance** of **online safety** during this period of home school when children might be spending more time than usual online and would ask you to visit the online safety part of our website. Please take time to discuss this issue with your children and consider home practices when children are online. Please click on the link below to view relevant information and continue to hold regular conversations with your children about this.

<https://www.aughtonchristchurch.lancs.sch.uk/page/online-safety/49955>

In addition to our own website the Government is also recommending the following links.

[Thinkyouknow](#) (advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online)

[Internet matters](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)

[Parent info](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)

[LGfL](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)

[Net-aware](#) (support for parents and careers from the NSPCC)

Further guidance and support for parents on many issues can also be accessed in the following Government link.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Free School Meals

We have been contacting relevant families but if your child is receiving free school meals and you would like some further information about provision or support or are struggling please email:

busar@aughtonchristchurch.lancs.sch.uk.

Please note this *does not include* universal free school meals for children in EYFS and KS1. If you are unsure, please send school an email and we can contact you to discuss.



Supporting home learning (click on the links)

Advice for parents and careers

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-primary-school-children-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19#contents>

Government recommended resources

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-online-education-resources-for-home-education>

Government link including NEW online academy

<https://www.thenational.academy/>

Websites and ideas to help parents with home learning

1. www.teachyourchildtoread.co.uk to help your child with reading.
2. Everyone knows that exercise improves physical health. But perhaps what is less known is the impact it can have on our mental health - this is especially true for children.
Joe wicks YouTube
3. www.jr.brainpop.com
Focused activities such as puzzles and building Lego constructions can help keep children occupied while arts and crafts help them stay creative.
4. Consider setting up playdates via **Skype or Zoom** can help while in self-isolation. Be mindful of safeguarding procedures.
5. **The National Literacy Trust** also launched an online zone for parents looking for ideas and activities whilst their children are home due to school closures. It includes reading and writing activities, book lists, videos, competitions and reading challenges.
6. **The BBC** announced it would ramp up its educational programmes to help parents staying home with children.

Ten helpful websites resources for children :

1) 123 Homeschool for ME

Free printable worksheets and educational activities to help making learning fun. Resources arranged by grade or subject.
Website: <https://bit.ly/2xcpnJc>

2) 2Simple

Purple Mash is a website designed for children aged 3-11. It contains many creative tools ie: coding, animation, publishing, art and also applications for maths, spelling and grammar.
Website: <https://bit.ly/2U3BIZg>

3) BBC Bitesize

Bitesize is the BBC's free online study support resource for school-age students in the United Kingdom. It is designed to aid students in both schoolwork and, for older students, exams.

Website: <https://bbc.in/2UIDPqc>

4) 5-a-day

Lots of exercise activities for movement breaks.

Website: <https://bit.ly/2Qv7yMs>

5) ABDO

ABDO's entire eBook collection is now available to students to access at home for free.

Website: <https://bit.ly/2wrid3H>

6) ActivityVillage

Activity Village provides thousands of colouring pages, crafts, puzzles, worksheets and more, for parents and teachers.

Website: <https://bit.ly/2J8tHf7>

7) All Kids Network

We offer FREE educational resources, worksheets, writing prompts, themed colouring pages, craft and snack ideas for parents, teachers and caregivers.

Website: <https://bit.ly/2U7ctVU>

8) Artrageous with Nate

Videos about artists and art projects to create.

Website: <https://bit.ly/2vBaobi>

9) Bamboo Learning

Bamboo Learning offers FREE voice-based applications (Alexa skills) that cover a range of academic subjects, including math, ELA/listening comprehension, and social studies.

Website: <https://bit.ly/33xffad>

10) Black Box Education

Digital and interactive resources for drama, dance and theatre.

Website: <https://bit.ly/3diSjtt>

<https://www.teachwire.net/news/coronavirus-how-are-uk-schools-dealing-with-this-health-crisis#pri>
<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/>

Top Tip:

Trying to mimic a classroom environment at home just isn't going to work, but setting out roughly what you plan to do each day will really help.