



Hyde Park Infant School

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Dear Parents,

I would like to start by congratulating all parents on engaging with the home learning provided by your child's teacher. Engaging with some is better than none and engaging with most if not all, is the best option and gives your child the best chance of resuming their learning at school without having to play 'catch up' and feel that they are falling behind. I have been thrilled with the responses to my Head Teacher challenges and really look forward to seeing how these have been interpreted and the creative outcomes that the children have achieved. At this point I would really like to thank all my staff for the dedication that they show in providing the online learning, supporting Educare as well as those who coordinate everything in the office, manage the dinners and playtimes as well as the band of cleaners who work during school hours as well as afterwards.

Extra things to do

I wonder how many of you took part in the Big Garden Bird Watch? I have to admit to having a go and watched the birds feeding in my garden but I didn't get round to recording or sending off my sightings this year. I expect that many of you did better than me!

This week has been children's mental health week with a theme of Express Yourself. This theme will have been promoted in school and online but I wonder if it is a good time to take time and talk as a family about expressing yourself whether it be by talking, pictures, dance, baking, making things, reading, listening to music, going for a walk, taking part in sport or whatever works for you as individuals and as a family. When it is pouring with rain, cold and gloomy, it is good to have a list of things that will cheer everybody up and bring positivity to any situation.

Internet safety day

Please see the information below provided by Miss Easton, our Computing co-ordinator:

Hyde Park Infant School will again participate in the annual 'Safer Internet Day'.

This annual event supports educating all pupils for the digital world we live in. The children will be taught the basics of online safety through stories prepared for their age in addition educating children of the importance of the 'Screen Cross Code'

Zip it – don't give out you name and age to people you don't know and remember to always use kind words when communicating online

Block it – don't answer messages you don't know



Flag it – always remember to ask for help if you don't know what to do when something happens as you use online activities or if anything worries you.

Throughout the day the children will learn:

What is the internet and the technology we have in our lives

Recognising we are all different but equally special and to remember to always be kind when online as we are in our daily lives

The importance of being safe when using technology

If you would like to find more information on how we can support and prepare our children to be responsible and safe participants in our digital world, please follow the links below: Talking to your child about online safety | NSPCC Staying safe online | Childline Pre-school (0-5) online safety advice | Internet Matters Online safety advice for 6-10 year olds | Internet Matters

We also recommend reading: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/help/157793540954833> This page reminds adults of the appropriate age of a Facebook user, specifically important as it is essential that we all know once you upload any information or images to the internet it remains there forever; other users can easily copy or screenshot that information and do what they wish with it.

Access to the Oxford Reading Tree books has been created for all the children (sent by your child's class teacher) so do log in and get reading. This is such a gift that you can give your child which will give them access to new learning as well as create confidence so that they can read independently for pleasure and never be bored.

We believe our newsletter from last week did not find its way to all of you due to issues with hotmail accounts. Please find below information again from Mrs Crawley.

Reading opportunities

Mrs Crawley has been arranging access for more reading opportunities for all the children (school have paid) so I will insert information for you below: This opportunity will be open for a year so please do make full use of the books so that your child can read and reread, first with your support and then independently so that they can build up confidence, speed and skills so that their reading competencies will 'open doors' for them as learners.

Please see details below from Mrs Crawley.

Having received positive feedback from parents who have accessed the free eBooks on Oxford Owl, we have subscribed to the Oxford Owl Infant eBook Library for the next 12 months. This will enable children to access 406 levelled eBooks to further enhance their reading opportunities at home. We have also arranged for each child to have access to over 2000 children's eBooks through the Plymouth Schools Library Services (this is different to Plymouth Library). Teachers will send login details for both of these sites to the children's email addresses next week.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs E A Hill

Head Teacher