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Friday, 17th April 2020

Weekly Round-Up – Edition #27

Dear Parents and Carers,

Although we are still technically in 'school holiday' mode, I wanted to give you a quick update ahead of the term resuming next week. I am sure like myself you have found the last few weeks of 'holiday' slightly odd – it hasn't really felt much different to the weeks before it, with not being able to go out and about and do the things we would typically do during the school breaks. Whatever your circumstances, I hope that the long Easter weekend break provided some respite and a chance to cut-off and enjoy the glorious weather. I had the absolute joy of receiving a video from Year One Beech class this morning sharing their home-made video which had been carefully put together of all the children in the class doing a sporting activity (separately) with Miss. Brant and then edited back together; this really did put a huge smile on my face, and thank you for those parents/carers who have supported the children in making this, it's really great. We're certainly finding new ways of working!

The question which I know everyone has been asking is when will the schools re-open. Please note that we must adhere to the governments advice on this, and on the back of the news yesterday, the lockdown we are currently in will last for at least another three weeks, taking us towards mid-May. I appreciate that you (like us) would like the children to return to school as soon as possible, but we must understand the rationale for doing so with the government and scientists trying to ensure there is not a resurgence of the outbreak. Naturally, as soon as we can confirm any plans to re-open we will communicate this with you. Behind the scenes we are working on several scenarios about when we re-open and what this looks like in practice with social distancing and re-establishing the children into school after such a period of absence.

The staff have spoken with a few parents/carers over the last few weeks, and there have been some common questions about what is happening with the children's work and learning whilst we remain closed. In my last newsletter before the Easter break I gave some information about our YouTube channel and home learning challenges. If this passed you by, I have included a summary of the information within this newsletter again.

Childcare places for children of key workers

Our numbers of children have fluctuated over the last four weeks, with sometimes as many as 18 children, and sometimes as few as just two. We remain committed to staying open so that parents/carers who are frontline workers can continue to play their part during the COVID19 situation. However, we do still ask that if your child/children can stay at home and be cared for by another adult safely, then please do so. Bringing your child into school for the childcare still poses a risk to them and us of spreading the disease, and with different children attending the setting each day, there is a risk to us all. Please help us all to stay safe, and only use the child care facility if you have no other alternative. We are operating on a skeleton staff like many other

businesses and sectors and want to ensure that we preserve our staff so that when we re-open, we have the staff ready to be able to do so.

If you do require child care for the following two weeks (w/c 20th April and w/c 27th April), then we have set up a Microsoft Forms for you to complete to let us know when you require the child care for. If you only need it for one day, then this is not a problem, just indicate it on the form. You can follow the link for the form [here](#), and we ask any parents/carers requiring the child care to complete the form by 7.30am on Monday, 20th April. The form will then close and any other changes needed will need to be communicated to us via email to admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk.

Online reading

We have been given the link to two electronic resources which we hope might be helpful for reading and Maths at home with your children. They are [TumbleBookLibrary](#) and [TumbleMath](#).

Phonics Videos

To support your child's phonics learning at home we have created a series of mini lessons which will be available from Tuesday, 21st April on our [YouTube](#) channel. Please try and build these sessions into your daily home learning as it will really help the children retain and consolidate their phonics learning across the year. Please have a look at the table below to see where we suggest you start with the videos and where to stop. It will be beneficial for all the children to recap on phases they have already learnt, we are also hoping it will help to increase your phonics knowledge as parents/carers. If you move onto new learning within Phase 5, please do not worry if they do not seem secure in the sounds straight away, as the children will likely recap this again once they return to school. Enjoy!

| Year group | Teacher | Where to start | Where to finish |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Little Berries & Little Acorns | All nursery staff | Phase 1 | Phase 1 (the children will begin to learn Phase 2 when they start school in YR so there is no need to go beyond Phase 1) |
| Year R | Miss. Lazarou / Mrs. Linney | Phase 3 - Lesson 1 | Phase 4 - Lesson 4 (please do not move onto Phase 5 yet) |
| | Miss. Chalmers | | |
| | Mrs. Haque | Phase 3 - Lesson 1 | If the children are secure in Phase 3 and Phase 4 and reading all sounds and tricky words fluently then you can begin working through Phase 5a starting at Lesson 1 |
| Year 1 | Miss. Brant | Phase 3 - Lesson 1 | End of Phase 5a |
| | Miss. Gardiner | Phase 5a - Lesson 1 | End of Phase 5b |
| | Mrs. Mackie | Phase 5a - Lesson 1 | End of Phase 5c |
| Year 2 | Mr. Ladyman | Phase 5a - Lesson 1 | End of Phase 5c |
| | Mr. English | Phase 5a - Lesson 1 | End of Phase 5c |
| | Miss. Thomas | Phase 5a - Lesson 1 | End of Phase 5c |

YouTube Channel and Home Learning Challenges

From next week, children in Nursery and Reception will continue to receive daily Tapestry challenges and activities directly from the school staff. In Nursery, one new activity/challenge will be uploaded each day, and in Reception, two activities/challenges will be uploaded each day

for the children to complete, if they can. Please continue to upload the children's pictures/videos as you can if they have completed them.

For children in Year One, Two, Three and Four, teachers are going to post a video twice a week on YouTube for you to access, setting a series of challenges/activities which will last until the next video is posted. The video is only going to be about five minutes long, and will give each of the children a chance to see their teacher(s), as well as find out what they can do to keep their learning up in a practical way over the coming days. We hope that this will really engage the children and be something that they will look forward to receiving and watching.

The videos will be posted onto YouTube typically each Monday and Thursday morning at 9.00am. The only exception to this is that because of the planned INSET day after the Easter holidays, the first video will be posted on Tuesday, 21st April, and then on Thursday etc. Each video is year-group specific.

Alongside these videos, I will also be posting some assemblies for the children to watch as well; this should help give the children a routine and keep the school community together and provide some continuity and assurance for everybody. I myself will be posting a video on Tuesday morning to welcome the children 'back' into school for the term. To go to the channels for the class playlists, you can click [here](#). Please share with your children if you can.

Year-group e-mail accounts

Whilst children in Nursery and Reception can upload any pictures or videos via Tapestry, this isn't available for children in Year One upwards. As such, we've created year-group e-mail accounts so that if you want and are able to, you can send us any photos, videos or messages from the children for staff to see. We hope that this will give purpose for the children in what activities and challenges they complete, and it will also provide recognition of what they are doing as well. For parents/carers, we also hope that it might be easier for you as parents/carers to say that their class teacher has asked them to do something, rather than yourselves!

The e-mail addresses are as follows:

- Year1@greenridgeacademy.co.uk
- Year2@greenridgeacademy.co.uk
- Year3@greenridgeacademy.co.uk
- Year4@greenridgeacademy.co.uk

The year-group e-mail accounts will not be monitored each day, and so you will receive an automated e-mail to acknowledge safe receipt of anything you send in. Please note, you are not required to send anything in, this is only if you want to and/or the children want to show what they have done.

Due to the sheer volume of e-mails that we may receive with all the challenges set, I have said to staff that there is no expectation that they will respond to each e-mail from you with the children's learning – this would be a job on its own! However, where staff can and are able to reply to e-mails, they will do so. Please note – I ask that you do not use these e-mail addresses for asking direct questions about your child or their learning; whilst the e-mails are secure in school, they are accessed by multiple staff and so if there is anything specific, then please e-mail admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk to ensure your e-mail is directed to the right member of staff to deal with. I will ask staff not to respond to individual parent/carer questions from the year-group e-mail accounts for this reason. Thank you for your support with this.

Message to parents/carers about using health services during COVID

Please remember that A&E services and your GP practice are still open during the coronavirus outbreak.

GP surgeries are not allowing patients to directly book face to face appointments at the moment, to help stop the spread of the virus. They are, however, more than happy to discuss your case over the phone and to offer advice and guidance. In some cases they may be able to consult by

video link, using mobile phones. If clinically appropriate, they can invite you to attend the surgery for an appointment at an arranged time.

It is really important to stay well at this difficult time, so please contact your GP surgery if your child is poorly with any symptoms that cause you concern. With so much attention on coronavirus at the moment, we are aware you may be concerned your child has a different illness or may be living with a worrying condition like asthma or diabetes.

So, if you are worried, please call your surgery to arrange a telephone consultation, or you can use the AskNHS app to book a call-back if you are 16 or over. The parent information form at the end of this newsletter, produced by Barts Health and North-East London STP, gives very useful advice on when to use services like GPs, pharmacists, A&E and 999.

All your health service staff are still there for you, even though they are having to do things a little differently. Please don't be afraid to use them if you are concerned about your child's health.

I will update you again at the end of next week unless there is any other urgent communication between now and then. Please stay safe everyone and keep well!

With best wishes,



Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher

FOR PARENTS

A SPECIAL COVID MESSAGE

When your child is ill or injured it is very difficult to decide if/when to call your child's GP, NHS 111 or go the Accident and Emergency Department (A&E). During the current situation and while the government is asking everyone to stay at home, it can be confusing to know what to do. Here is some guidance:



FOR ADVICE ON COVID-19 AND CHILDHOOD ILLNESSES/INJURIES VISIT WWW.NHS.UK

Designed by primary and secondary care clinicians from Barts Health & North-East London STP

YOU SHOULD GO TO A&E AND/OR CALL 999 IMMEDIATELY IF

APPEARANCE

- ▶ Pale/mottled/ashen/blue colour
- ▶ Collapsed/unresponsive/loss of consciousness
- ▶ No obvious pulse or heartbeat
- ▶ Severe allergic reaction

BEHAVIOUR

- ▶ Extreme irritability/pain/sleepiness (can be woken but falls asleep immediately)
- ▶ Seizure/jerking movements/fit

BREATHING

- ▶ Sucking in and out between ribs
- ▶ Flaring nostrils
- ▶ Extremely fast breathing
- ▶ Noisy breathing

OTHER

- ▶ Bleeding from an injury, that doesn't stop after 10 minutes of pressure

YOU SHOULD GO TO A&E IF

APPEARANCE

- ▶ Dizziness/feeling faint
- ▶ Rash that does not fade when you press it

BEHAVIOUR

- ▶ Severe constant tummy pain

OTHER

- ▶ Burn
- ▶ Possible broken bone

OTHER

- ▶ Swallowed foreign objects (especially magnets/batteries)
- ▶ Temperature higher than 38°C in a baby younger than three months old
- ▶ Your child has special health care needs and you have a plan that tells you to go to A&E
- ▶ Feels abnormally cold to touch
- ▶ Expressing suicidal/significant selfharm thoughts

YOU SHOULD CALL YOUR GP IF

APPEARANCE

- ▶ Mild/mod allergic reaction (known or suspected)
- ▶ New rash that fades when you press on it

BEHAVIOUR

- ▶ Mild irritability/sleepier than normal
- ▶ Severe tummy pain that comes and goes
- ▶ Vomiting and diarrhoea
- ▶ Not passed urine for more than 12 hours

BREATHING

- ▶ Wheezing/fast breathing

OTHER

- ▶ Temperature >39°C (age 3-12 months)
- ▶ Temperature over 38°C for more than 7 days
- ▶ Accidental overdose of medication or other substances
- ▶ Ear pain for more than 2 days
- ▶ Emotional distress, that can't be reassured

YOU SHOULD CHECK WITH 111 OR YOUR COMMUNITY PHARMACIST IF

APPEARANCE

- ▶ Pink eyes/red eyes

BEHAVIOUR

- ▶ Ear pain for less than 2 days
- ▶ Mild tummy pain that comes and goes

BREATHING

- ▶ Cough
- ▶ Runny nose

OTHER

- ▶ Temperature over 38°C for less than 7 days