

Dear Parent/carers,

Wow! Week 4 is coming to an end – praise yourselves for all you have achieved with your children. This is an unique time for us all so please take each day at a time and set your child small achievable goals, praising them and yourselves when they are achieved. We have loved the regular feedback, notes and pictures which many of you are sending in. Keep these coming in. We will try to publish or acknowledge as many of these as we can.

We hope you enjoyed the surprise dance from many Downs View staff. We were impressed with the amount of likes and shares which it received. A little bit of fun which clearly brought positive vibes to your children. There have been more challenges and stories too which we hope you have continued to enjoy! Downs View staff are very creative and are already working on more surprises for next week. Watch this space!

Below is the weekly newsletter from your team with more ideas for the week. There will be many more ideas on the website from Monday too for you to use at home. Please try to complete at least one learning activity at home per day and keep up Reading with or to your child daily.

Finally remember: We may be in isolation but you are not alone. Please remember if you need support or advice, refer to our support guide sent a few weeks ago or contact [office@downs-view.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@downs-view.kent.sch.uk) or call Sam our FLO on **07884866105**. These are checked regularly. All of the staff are keeping themselves busy but do not stop thinking of you all!

***Best wishes***  
***Mrs Kent***

Hello Year 1!

We hope you had a lovely Easter weekend with your family and enjoyed the glorious sunshine! We also hope you enjoyed seeing our funny dancing! I bet lots of you have even better moves to that song! We can't wait to see them when we are all back together. We are still missing you lots but are so pleased to hear you are all doing the right thing by staying at home and keeping yourself and everybody safe. Below we have given you a few new ideas for your home learning. Once again we'd love to see what you have been doing. Please don't forget to send them to our Year 1 email address.

**Phonics** – How about making a game to practise your phonics this week? You could draw a hopscotch on the pavement with chalk with some of the digraphs we have learnt on and practise saying the sounds as you jump on each one. To challenge yourself even more can you say a word containing that digraph? Or if you would prefer an indoor activity how about making your own snakes and ladders style game with digraphs on each number to say as you land on them?

**English** - This week can you write a letter to someone? It could be a friend or family member who you haven't been able to see for a while. Include some of the things you have been doing to keep busy and maybe you could ask them a question too?

**Maths** – Subtraction. Practise your subtraction skills this week. You can use any objects to help you or even make your own number line. Can you subtract from a 2-digit number? For example; 23-6, 15-7, 28-11?

**Science– Materials.** Can you find and sort some items around your home or from your walk by their properties? Some ideas of the groups you might sort them into are; waterproof, transparent, hard, soft, bendy. Sort them however you like. Maybe you could guess the group they would go in first and then test to see if you are correct.

**Art-** Can you create an Andy Goldsworthy inspired piece of Art? See Mrs Littles video challenge on Downs Views Facebook page.

**Reading** – Please don't forget to carry on reading! The exciting thing about being at home is that you can read whatever you choose to. This might be an old favourite book that's far too easy for you or a really hard one that you can be 'shared read' with a grown up. We don't mind as it is all good practice. Just have fun and carry on enjoying what you read!

We have all had a lovely Easter bank holiday and really enjoyed the sunshine it brought. Here are some of the things we have been up to this week.

#### **Mr Horne**

I had a fantastic Easter and made a lamb roast for my family. My little boy woke up to Easter eggs and went on a big Easter egg hunt. I had to try and keep up with Miss Stanley's dance moves - I hope you enjoyed the video on Facebook.

#### **Miss Thorogood**

I have had another lovely week enjoying the sunshine. I have sorted out my wardrobe and think I have plenty of space now for a shopping spree when the shops are open again! We had some lovely deliveries this week from friends and family to celebrate the day we were supposed to be getting married including bunches of flowers which I have taken my time to arrange nicely. I had to research how to do this but think I am getting the hang of it! We have re-booked our wedding for later in the year so we are counting down until then!

#### **Mrs Hunt**

I have enjoyed riding my bike this week. I only really like going out on it when it is nice and warm so this weekend was perfect! I rode 12 miles on my own on Saturday and even managed to spot some cute little lambs in the fields as I was cycling by. I then rode 8 miles with my family. It was so sunny that my arms got a little pink from the sun! I must remember to wear sunscreen from now on!

#### **Mrs Norman**

We had a busy Easter weekend and were lucky the Easter bunny visited! We made a special mask for the egg hunt and we all had a go at finding them hidden in our garden. We were able to make some Easter biscuits and ice them with different patterns and sprinkles. My kitchen drawers and cupboards were such a mess, but I was able to tidy and organise them better!

We hope that you and your families are all keeping well and safe. Take care and please keep in touch via email.

