

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all safe and well. This week has brought new ideas and plans for us at Downs View following the Government announcement on Sunday evening. We are in the process of making plans to ensure that we have the safest transition back to school for you and your child. Additional information and videos will be coming to you to demonstrate how this process will work next week. We are really looking forward to seeing you and your child in school.

I would like to reassure you though that for whatever reason your child will not be returning to school on Monday 1st June, home learning will continue to be supplied for your child and you will not be penalised in anyway.

Finally, please 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 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!

With love and best wishes
Mrs Kent

From the Reception team:

Hello again to all EYFS parents and children! We hope you are continuing to stay alert, safe and well! We all miss you so much! We have all been into school this week to make sure the classrooms are getting ready for when you come back. Thank you for keeping us going with all the lovely emails and photos we have been receiving are continuing to make us smile! Keep them coming!

Hopefully you have had the opportunity to complete some of the activities we put on the website last week. Here are a few more things you can do this week;

Phonics: Use the website

<https://www.ictgames.com/mobilePage/tellATRex/index.html>

This game will encourage your child to read a silly question and then answer it using either yes or no!

English: Go onto the website www.oxfordowl.co.uk and read the book Cat's Picnic (in red band level). See if you can answer these questions whilst you are reading! Who is in the box? (Page 5). Where have we seen Nok before? Who starts to peck at the picnic? Why do you think he is doing that? (Page 6) What does the duck manage to catch? What part of his body does he use to catch him? (Page 7) Why does Cat tell Nok to let go of the bun? (Page 8) What do you think the duck is going to do next? (Page 9) Why is Cat making herself smaller? (Page 12) How did Cat manage to rescue Nok? (Page 14)

Maths: Can you make your own number fan using the teen numbers. Then ask a grown up to say a teen number and see if you can find it on your number fan. You could then swap roles!

Physical Development: Explore <https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga> Cosmic Yoga! On this site the children explore yoga and mindfulness through story. A great website that I know some of you have already been using! Mr Cooper has also supplied more physical ideas for you to try- keep an eye out on the website and Facebook for these.

Writing: Get four jars / boxes. One to be the character, one to be the setting, one to be the problem, one the resolution. Write, draw or collect props to go in each and then use these props to create your own stories. These could be told verbally, drawn out or written down.

Creative: Why not go into the garden or whilst on your walk take some paper and create an observational drawing of something of interest to you?

Science: Have a try at this experiment to show how plants drink water using a celery stick or white flowers!

The EYFS science experiment: Why Do Flowers Change Colour in Food Colouring?
Use celery sticks or any white flowers to show how capillaries carry water and blood around the body (or plant). It also helps to demonstrate to children how and why plants drink water.

What you need:

- 3 celery sticks or 3 white flowers
- 3 different shades of food colouring
- Jars with water

How you do it: You'll need at least three cups containing water with a different colour food dye in each. Red, blue, and yellow usually give the most visual effect. Add a celery stick or a white flower to each cup and wait for the change!

Messages from EYFS teachers:

Mrs Smith - This week I have been continuing to log in daily to read all of your wonderful emails which have continued to make me laugh and smile. I celebrated VE day by making a Victoria sponge decorated with blue, red and white icing! Yum! I have also been helping Mr. Smith lay some new turf in the garden. Hopefully we can keep the dogs off of it long enough for it to begin to grow!

Miss Cossey - This week I have been on a beautiful bike ride with my brother. We saw so many different animals, my favorites were the cows and their calves. I have also been practising my painting skills with my sister. I can't wait to show you what I have learnt when we are back together.

Miss Ball - This week I have been waiting to become an auntie for the second time and was very excited when my nephew made an appearance on Monday! I have made some yummy brownies as a bit of a treat (and a change from banana bread). I've also had a good sort out of my clothes ready to donate to a charity.

Enjoy these new activities and see you soon!