

Dear Parent/Carers

Another week has passed and I hope you all remain safe and well. This week has brought together the outstanding Downs View team, to make many preparations following the Government's instruction for Reception children to return to school. This has brought its challenges but with your child's and my staff's safety at the forefront of all decisions made, we have completed risk assessments which indicate that we are able to open on 1st June. Yesterday all staff who are able to return on Monday 1st June came into school for meetings with myself or Sarah my Deputy to have thorough training and preparation.

This week you should have received a letter via parent mail with a link to a video which demonstrates the tight procedures which are in place for 1st June. You were asked to contact the school office if you were NOT allowing your child to return to school for whatever reason. This is essential information which we require to continue to plan for the week beginning 1st June so if you haven't informed us and you are not planning to return please let us know as soon as possible. A reminder that if you change your mind you can alter your decision for the following week.

Key worker and priority children who have been into school since lockdown will join their peers in the class bubbles.

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.

Thank you for your support and positive feedback regarding correspondence sent in these difficult times. We will keep you updated with any changes as necessary.

Also a huge thank you for all the kind messages and some gifts for 'Thank a teacher day,' These were greatly appreciated. I really am so lucky to have such an amazing team who always pull together and put the children first. They are working so hard to make the school tidy, bright and inviting for when the children return. Watch this space!

Finally, you 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!

-This week we have set more creative tasks with links to websites for other curriculum areas. Enjoy that family time together.

Have a great half term but please continue to stay safe and alert and keep to the 2metre distancing rule when you are out in the community.

With love and best wishes

Mrs Kent

From the EYFS team:

Hello again to all EYFS parents and children! We hope you are continuing to stay alert, safe and well! We all still miss you so much but thank you for continuing to make us laugh and smile with all your emails and photographs! 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 to try during half term!

Messages from EYFS teachers:

Mrs Smith - This week I have been on some amazing dog walks and bike rides with my family! I have baked a birthday cake for Mr. Smith with my children (their choice a Victoria sandwich!). I have been completing some online training courses and have been speaking to my friends and family via zoom! I have even helped lay turf in my back garden and mix concrete for the driveway!!

Miss Cossey - This week I have been helping my mum to plant different vegetables in her garden patch. We have tomatoes, green beans and courgettes growing! I have also been planting flowers which the bees will love when they flower. I have completed some online courses too!

Miss Ball - This week I have enjoyed watching the lambs in the field behind my house jumping around and having fun! I've continued to do some more courses for school. I've also spent time clearing my garden and helping my step son with his Maths home learning.

Enjoy these new activities and see you soon!

Reading: Go onto the website www.oxfordowl.co.uk and read the book Family Poems (in red band level). See if you can answer these questions whilst you are reading! How many people are in the family? Where do they live? What pets do they have? (page 2 and 3) What do you think Paul likes to do?? What do you think his sister likes to do? (page 4 and 5) How did the little girl fall over? What word rhymes with knee? (page 6 and 7) Where should you not jump? Where can you jump? (pages 8 and 9) Where do you think bear may be? Where does the boy look for him? (pages 10 and 11) Where did they find bear? (page 12).

After reading these poems could you write your own poem to tell us about your family or what you like to do or have been doing?

Also have a look on BBC Bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/zjpqqp3/year-1-and-p2-lessons/1>

I have selected some activities from the year 1 section that would be great to try!

- 24th April – Wellbeing – How to be a good friend
- 27th April – English – Forming letters correctly
- 27th April – Maths – Ordinal Numbers
- 6th May – Science – Basic parts of a plant
- 6th May – English- Forming long ladder letters
- 14th May – Design and Technology – Simple Designs
- 15th May – Art and Design – Drawing and Painting

Use junk modelling to make your own piece of transport i.e. car, hot air balloon, rocket.	Create your own bunting to hang in the garden or in your bedroom. What colours will you use? What pictures / patterns will be on each triangle?
Find some pictures of how transport has changed over time. If you could travel on any of these pieces of transport, what would you chose to travel in and why?	Find a recipe and see if you can follow it! Send us some photographs of what you baked / cooked? (with adult help)
Draw a map of the things you see on your daily walk / on your way to your favourite place.	Create your own addition or subtraction picture story and record as a 'part part whole ' i.e. there were three aeroplanes. One took flight there were only two aeroplanes left.