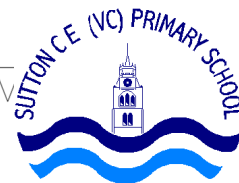


Newsletter 24th April 2020



Friday 24th April 2020

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Headteacher welcome

I am delighted to be able to introduce myself as the Interim Headteacher for Sutton Church of England Primary School, albeit under some rather unusual circumstances. During my first 'normal' week, I would be aiming to meet as many children and families as possible by being present on the playground and visiting the classrooms in order to get to know you all. As you can imagine, my first week has been somewhat different!

However, I have been meeting some of the staff and also liaising regularly with Mrs Garbutt about the future direction of the school. It is very exciting to be able to offer my experience and to be involved in moving the school forward, together with the staff and families of Sutton. I truly believe that working in partnership is what makes a school successful and that in doing so, we are able to provide the best possible outcomes for our children.

My early career began in 2000 in a challenging North London School, where I began my vocation in teaching that prepared me extremely well for leadership. I quickly moved on to Headship in 2005 in the London Borough of Barnet, leading a three form entry school and helping it to thrive, and to support the challenges that many of the service children who attended the school faced. In 2010, I made the move to be closer to home, in Cambridgeshire, and settled to begin my family and to take on the Headship of a school in the relatively new community of Cambourne, where I have been working ever since. Being a mother to two children, I am intensely aware of the responsibilities that schools have in providing a rich, varied and suitably challenging yet supportive environment where each and every child is encouraged to do their very best and be recognised for their efforts. You can be assured that as Headteacher, I will strive to create the best education for your children whilst they are members of our school family and to support the staff in doing so. I look forward to working with you.

Mrs Jarman

Free School Meals

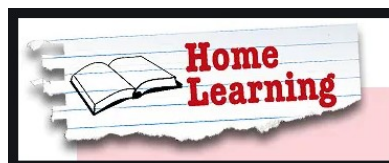


We understand that the times we are currently living in are both uncertain and challenging. Alongside this many families are facing changes in their financial circumstances.

If your circumstances have changed, and you believe that you now meet the following criteria, please complete an online application www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals.

Home learning themes

We understand that working on different topics with different aged children can be challenging, when trying to educate children at home. We have therefore reviewed and revised our approaches to home learning, with this in mind. Home learning will now follow a school theme for a two week period. Our first theme is 'Animals' and this will be followed by 'Magical Worlds'. Our home learning leads will be planning activities around these themes for your children to try and make things more manageable. Please be aware that staff at the school will only be actively responding to children's learning on class dojo between their normal contact hours with children, which is between 9 am and 4pm. Although some staff may choose to respond outside of these times, we hope that by setting this expectation that you don't feel disappointed if a member of staff is unable to contact you until the next day.



Department for Education support for Home Learning

The Department for Education recognise that many settings are sharing resources for children who are at home and have expressed their gratitude for this. They have now supplied [a list of online educational resources](#) which have been identified by some of the country's leading educational experts to support learning at home. To support this further the BBC will be providing daily lessons that began on 20th April 2020 and can be found at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

The DfE also wants to support parents and all early years and childcare settings to ensure children's early learning can continue. Available support includes:

The Department for Education's [Hungry Little Minds](#) campaign features tips and practical activities that parents can do at home with children to support their early learning. There are many simple ways to help children learn and it does not have to feel like 'learning'. Having everyday conversations, make-believe play and reading together all make a big difference to children's development. Settings can direct parents to the [BBC's Tiny Happy People](#).

Ely Cathedral Learning activities

I hope that you are all safe and well during these testing times. As you will be aware, Ely Cathedral has had to shut its doors for only the 2nd time in its 900 year history. As such, we are not currently able to welcome you and your students into the Cathedral as we would like. However, so that we can stay in touch and continue to support you and your students we have put together a range of different resources that we hope will be of use to you in the coming weeks.

We have created a FaceBook group - **Ely Cathedral Learning Fun for Families** - through which we are sharing the following resources:

Mondays @ 10.30am - Bible Stories for children aged 2-6 with suggested craft activities. This is closely linked to our sessions around the stained glass windows in the Cathedral and the stories they tell.

Wednesdays @ 10.30am - The History of Ely Cathedral. This is a series of 10-20 minute videos which cover the history of the Cathedral in chronological order. This would be particularly useful for those schools who would wish their students to work on their local history projects over the course of the next half term. It is closely linked to our sessions round Etheldreda, Hereward and Monastic Life and is aimed at children aged 7-12.

Fridays @ 10.30am - "The Wickit Chronicles". Each week we will read a new chapter of "The Wickit Chronicles - Ely Plot". This is a book about a young orphan boy who is brought up in a monastery on the Fens during the middle ages. After each chapter there will be suggested activities for the children to have a go at that will help them to learn more about the history of the Fens as well as medieval monastic life. We are really lucky that the author, Joan Lennon, has also joined our group and will be on hand to answer any questions that the children might have about the story and the characters. These stories are aimed at children aged 7-11.

We understand that some parents will not have a FaceBook account. As such, links to all of these resources can be found on the Ely Cathedral Website, in the learning tab.

In addition to our FaceBook offer, we have also created **a set of curriculum resources for Religious Education** that children can use for their homelearning. Each lesson includes a video with clear instructions as well as printable activity sheets for children to complete as they progress through the video. These resources can be found on the TES website here: <https://www.tes.com/member/ElyCathedralLearning>

There is one series aimed at **KS1 which looks at Festivals** and another aimed at **KS2 which looks at the teachings of Jesus**. They are all free, the first lesson for each key stage will be available from tomorrow and the other sessions will all be available for download by the end of next week.

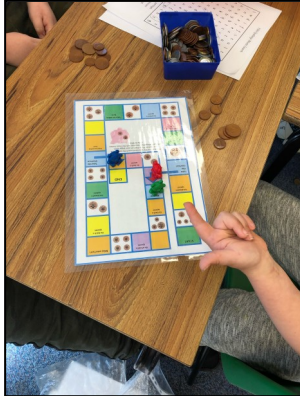
I do hope that you will find these resources useful and very much look forward to seeing you and your students in the Cathedral very soon.

Very best wishes,

Phil Stevens

In school learning at Sutton

We are keen to share the learning that the children have been taking part in, whilst some of them have been attending school, as others learn at home. Our weekly update intends to provide you with a brief snapshot of life at Sutton. As part of the 'Animals' theme, the children made animal habitats, animal masks & bird feeders. They were keen to learn as much as they could about the types of environments that different animals would need to thrive. They also had a visit from Mrs Bradley who sang with them, and encouraged them to create their own musical masterpiece with accompanying instruments. The children sounded fab and it was lovely to hear music in our school once again! Below you are able to see some of the maths work and creative games that the children have taken part in this week.



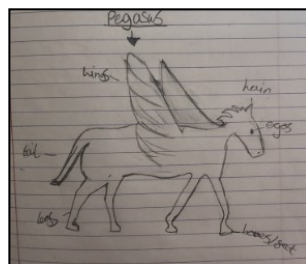
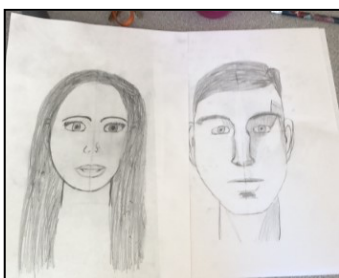
Headteacher roll of honour

Each week we will be celebrating the wonderful home learning that children have been taking part in and will be congratulating specific children on their efforts. This section of the newsletter will be known as the 'Headteacher roll of honour', where children are nominated for their special achievements. Once term time resumes, we will be supplementing this special announcement with a special postcard sent home, from the Headteacher. We hope that you enjoy celebrating together with us. This week, a special mention goes to the following children:

Willow—Amethyst Class. Willow created an amazing virtual duplo Safari. She researched a range of animals and then shared her knowledge. She was able to talk about what they eat, where they live in the wild, their job in the herd or pack and then share an interesting fact. Well done Willow you spoke clearly and had organised what you were going to say really well.



Kamile—Aquamarine Class. Kamile has been busily posting on her portfolio and producing some amazing art work, even when it's not on the Learning Grid. Well done and keep it up!



Cambridgeshire County Council Home Learning Parents Guide

The CCC Home Learning Parents Guide is for parents of children in key stages 1 and 2. The guide can be downloaded as a booklet, and it contains a wide range of online and screen-free learning activities, ideas and resources. There's also a number of links for parents about online safety and wellbeing, as well as many of the best challenges that can be found on the Home Learning Hub. You can find it here: <https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/asset-library/CCC-Home-Learning-Parents-Guide.pdf>

Oxford University Press have produced a range of resources to support schools, parents and children during the school closures. This includes a number of online PD webinars and training sessions. This week you can find and sign-up for sessions with James Clements and more [here](#).