Townley School and Pre-School

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8th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are all able to take some time out to reflect on the 75^{th} Anniversary of VE Day. The feedback on our first virtual assembly today, was really positive, so we will continue with these for now, the assembly can be watched in the Facebook Groups and on the Starz Page for the children.

I would like to start this week by thanking the staff, who have been working hard to support the school. I have loved seeing their interactions with you all on Facebook and Instagram, as well as hearing about their calls with you. I have seen and heard about the tremendous efforts you are all going to, to support your children at home. Are the children enjoying the class stories? It would be wonderful to know that the children are listening to these each afternoon.

There has been much speculation in the press about schools reopening, we hope we will know what this might look like after Sunday's briefing. We have launched a survey through social media, as we what to know your thoughts on reopening, you may have concerns or ideas that we have not yet thought of, please could you take a few moments to complete this before Sunday evening https://survey.app.do/views-concerns-for-going-back-to-school. It is important that school only reopens when it is safe for everyone, we have staff, children and families who are shielding and have underlying health conditions, we will likely need to introduce new ways of working and moving around the school once we reopen. You may have ideas about that would support us with this, please do let us know.

Our April newsletter had all the learning links we think are helpful, as well as the individual class links. This newsletter can be accessed here https://www.townley.cambs.sch.uk/website/april_2020/475422. I would love some photographs of the children learning at home to include in the village magazines and on the school website. If you are happy to share things please email them to the support@townley.cambs.sch.uk email, I will not copy pictures from the closed Facebook pages, as these are private groups.

We are hoping the Power Maths books we have purchased all the children from Year 1 to Year 6, have arrived at your home. If you have not yet received yours please let us know through the dedicated support@townley.cambs.sch.uk email address, or let staff know when you receive your weekly call.

If you need support providing food for your family, please let one of us know as we can source foodbank voucher for you. If your financial situation has changed, you can apply for Free School Meals, check your eligibility here https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/help-with-school-learning-costs/free-school-meals. If you are entitled to Free School meals, we will receive notification and a member of Townley staff will call you and discuss this, there are a number of scams around this at the moment so please check with us if you are not sure.

At a time when your children are spending more time online at home, the government has released new activity packs, with simple 15 minute activities you can do with your child to support their online safety. You can download packs for different ages below.

EYFS - https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/early-years/?utm_source=Thinkuknow&utm_campaign=f4fd0dd4ee-

<u>TUK_ONLINE_SAFETY_AT_HOME_05_05_20&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0b54505554-f4fd0dd4ee-63319233</u>

Hawker - https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/5-7s/?utm_source=Thinkuknow&utm_campaign=f4fd0dd4ee-

TUK ONLINE SAFETY AT HOME 05 05 20&utm medium=email&utm term=0 0b54505554-f4fd0dd4ee-63319233

Emerald and Emperor - https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/8-10s/?utm_source=Thinkuknow&utm_campaign=f4fd0dd4ee-

<u>TUK_ONLINE_SAFETY_AT_HOME_05_05_20&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0b54505554-f4fd0dd4ee-63319233</u>

This link might be suitable for У6, it is aimed at 11-13 year olds https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/11-13s/?utm_source=Thinkuknow&utm_campaign=f4fd0dd4ee-

<u>TUK_ONLINE_SAFETY_AT_HOME_05_05_20&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0b54505554-</u>f4fd0dd4ee-63319233

Finally, our advice is the same as the Government: Stay at home, protect the NHS and help save lives. Currently, the children of Key Workers are all safe at home, but if your situation changes, do please get in touch with us.

Take care of yourselves and your families,

Best wishes,

Mrs Higgins