

Learning and Caring Together,  
“...they will flourish in the courts of our God.” (Psalm 92:13)

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Well, week 2 of school closure has passed and we have reached the 'end of term' point when we should be breaking up for the Easter holidays. What a different Easter holidays it is for us all this year. I'm sure many of you, like staff in school, are managing home working whilst looking after children, encouraging and supporting home learning and are getting used to changes to your working patterns and annual leave.

My staff team and I are so very proud to be supporting key worker families and vulnerable children throughout the COVID-19 crisis. We have risen to all that is expected of us as we, primarily, meet the needs of vulnerable children and children of key workers who have no alternative than to send their children to school.

I hope 'home teaching and learning' continues to go well for you all. We sent three paper packs home to get you through these first few weeks until after Easter. Since then, Mrs Clifford and Mrs Johnson have been working with our website provider to develop our website to be more 'home-learning' friendly. We are hoping to upload resources electronically for week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020. Please be patient and understanding. I'm sure you will appreciate that providers are currently inundated with requests from schools, and indeed companies too.

As many of you know, my children are older now; I don't need to support home learning but absolutely do appreciate how challenging this must be. Staff 'stories' of coping with this are making us smile and laugh through the challenges faced by many. If I could have a pound for every, 'Give me a class of 30 to teach rather than my ---.' I would be rich! In the grand scheme of things, I think we would all agree that these challenges are very small in comparison to the work and personal experiences of others at the moment.

I hope you enjoyed our newsletter this week. Our second issue will be uploaded to our website (News and Events tab) on Monday. It would be lovely to see some of your children taking part in suggested activities and/or home learning. Please send photographs to Mrs Leese's email address if you would like to see them published in a future newsletter, on our website, on Twitter or maybe in the newspaper. What a great way for the children to see what their friends have been up to! **(Please note: by sending in a photograph and/or picture, you are consenting to it being included in the newsletter and shared publically via our website, Twitter and potentially in the media/newspaper).** Please also note, if we receive lots, not all will be included or shared every week.

Mrs Clifford has also been developing the 'WELLBEING' section of our website. Please take a look. There are lots of links of interest and for support too. There are currently drop down headings for: General wellbeing, Coronavirus, Online Safety and Anti-Bullying.

Last week, I told you that Mrs Johnson is looking into keeping in touch through a two-way texting service. She will be sending a letter shortly and you will be receiving log-ins. This will be new for us at St Edward's, so please be patient as we explore this together. Staff are really looking forward to saying hello and sharing your child's home learning and experiences throughout the school closure (and beyond). Remember to follow us on Twitter @StedwardsC - another great way to stay connected.

I wish you all another safe and happy weekend!

With very best wishes,



Mrs Machin  
Principal