THE PAKEMAN PRESS

Pakeman Primary School

Issue 1, Summer Term 2020

Monday 27th April

Thank you for taking the time to read this weekly newsletter. We hope you will find its contents useful.

Dear Parents/Carers

We are now entering Week 6 of the lockdown and despite the challenges we all face, the wonderful connections and support that exist for each other within our school community are clear. Staff are making regular phone calls home to check in with our families and responding to concerns and issues raised. Staff, children and parents are communicating daily through our online learning platform for children, ClassDojo. Staff videos for the children are being excitedly viewed and commented on. We understand that the uncertainty caused by this difficult time can cause extra stress and anxiety, so don't forget that we also have direct contact numbers available for parents/carers who need to speak to a member of staff during the week. These numbers can be accessed on the school website, at:

https://www.pakemanprimary.co.uk/news/message-to-parents-carers-2/

All those entitled to free school meals should by now have received food vouchers by email directly from the supplier. Let us know if this is not the case.

It is essential that we have up-to-date contact details for you, including your email address to ensure that the lines of communication are as effective as possible. Please email us any changes or updates to your contact details at admin@pakeman.islington.sch.uk.

Also, the local authority has put together some advice and information for Parents and Carers in relation to Coronavirus. This can be found using the following website:

https://directory.islington.gov.uk/kb5/islington/directory/advice.page?

Safeguarding

Pakeman Primary School is committed to safeguarding, child protection and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The full Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy is on our website at:

www.pakemanprimary.co.uk/school-info/school-policies/.

A hard copy of the policy may also be obtained from the school office.

Edventure

Pakeman is working in partnership with Montem and Drayton Park schools, to provide an on-site learning hub at Montem for key worker/vulnerable children. There is a mix of staff from all three schools, including many familiar Pakeman faces!

A typical day starts with an assembly followed by exercise (usually either GoNoodle or Joe Wicks). The small classes then split into key stages for the morning session that may include maths and writing activities, games, guided reading and discussions about the day's news. The afternoon session includes PE with teachers from Islington or fantastic art activities, followed by diaries and Newsround. The children also get plenty of time outside.

The 'Edventure' school ensures a warm welcome for everyone because depending on different family's situations, the children in the classes are different day-to-day.

A note on wellbeing from the school's therapists—Rachael and Sophie

It's a really difficult time with a range of additional pressures and worries for all of us. Therefore, each week we will be suggesting simple activities and tips for helping you to look after your emotional wellbeing and build resilience. This week:

For children: Resilience in the forest with Kiri and Lou! (2 clips - total 4 mins 12 secs)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QsOAPGESXZs

For families: Funny-face Copycat
Take it in turns to copy each other's silly faces. Looking in a mirror can create even more giggles. This is simple but effective, as games like these are not only funny, they are delightfully bonding. Laughter is a wonderful medicine in difficult times.
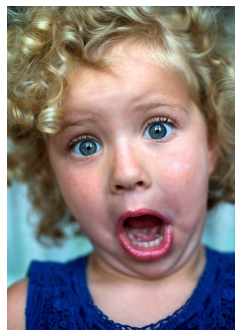
For parents/carers:
The Mental Health Foundation covers the impact that juggling family, work and finances during lockdown can have on our personal well-being. One particular article might be of help: Parenting during corona-virus.

A HUGE THANK YOU FROM THE WHOLE PAKEMAN PRIMARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY TO OUR FANTASTIC NHS STAFF AND ALL OTHER KEY WORKERS. YOU ARE AWESOME AND AMAZING!

Get involved in our two exciting whole-school projects!!
We have started two really exciting 'whole school' projects for the website and newsletter, in which we want to involve the whole school community (children, parents, staff, governors, volunteers, Pakeman friends …) as a way of us all coming together during this unprecedented and uncertain time:

(1) **MESSAGES OF SUPPORT AND THANKS TO KEY WORKERS**. These can be in any form: letters, poems, drawings, paintings, rainbows, photographs, videos etc.

(2) **CREATING A COMMUNITY COOKBOOK**. We are asking everyone to share a recipe and a photograph of the finished dish.

Please remember to provide the consent requested on Class Dojo to reproduced any photographs or videos of your child that you upload to ClassDojo in the school newsletter and on the school website.

P4C QUESTION

Can kindness change the world?

Music and dance for children aged 0-6

We are really missing our usual Coffee Morning Project, which included an exciting weekly music/dance session called "Stay and Sing" for toddlers. However, for the duration of lockdown, Marta and Natalie have found a weekly Youtube Stay & Sing session called Boppin' Bunnies, which nursery children will really enjoy. You can find this at:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zsYRaYoIsH8&feature=youtu.be

There is also a Facebook page, Boppin' Bunnies Music Classes Online for families with children aged 0-6 years! It's on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays at 10am, and parents can access this for free. (A contribution of £5 a session is requested to pay music teachers with no earnings from gigs or shows during the lockdown, but if you can't afford to pay you don't have to). The classes can be found at:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/199145248008616/?ref=share

Word of the week

Lockdown

Definition: a security measure taken during an emergency to prevent people from leaving or entering a building or other location.

Use of the word _lockdown_ in a sentence:
The UK was put into lockdown on 23 March in an attempt to limit the spread of Covid-19.

LEARNING DURING LOCKDOWN

The teachers are providing daily learning tasks and feedback for their classes during lockdown through ClassDojo, a fantastic online learning platform, which enables the children to engage with their class learning and upload their work. It also facilitates direct communication between teachers, children and parents about their schoolwork. Under the direction and guidance of their teachers, all the children are engaged in learning and are producing amazing work, as the following selection of activities and work from the children in Years 5 and 6 shows.

WAVE ART AND POEMS:
Children created poems and art based on Hokusai's painting 'The Great Wave'. They also researched facts about the artist, Hokusai. This linked to their class book 'Kensuke's Kingdom', in which a young boy called Michael, embarks on a journey around the world with his family on a boat.
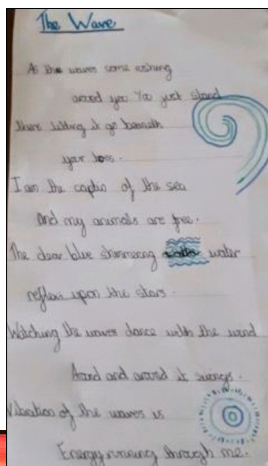
Gabrielle (Blue)

Mikaeel (Red)

JOURNEYS: In this project, children planned their own journey around the world. They researched continents and countries they would like to visit and created a map/route for their journey. They designed and made boats out of things they could find at home (paper, plastic bottles, cardboard, egg boxes etc). They then created their own 'ship's log' book where they could record information and facts about all the countries they had visited.

Silvia (Blue)

Danyal (Blue)

SPRING BLOSSOM AND SUNFLOWERS: Children created their own choice of art work based on the spring blossom. They also researched why cherry blossom is important in Japan and how this is celebrated. They also produced Images of sunflowers linked to a science activity we carried out before leaving school, where children planted their own sunflower seeds.
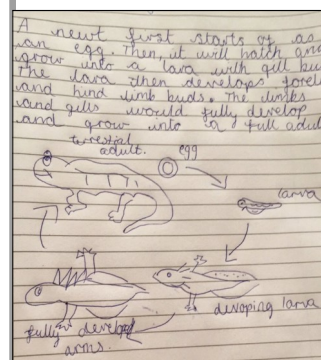
Tre (Brown)

Mia Jo (Blue)

LIFE CYCLE OF A NEWT: Based on a newt that Harry found on a walk, children revised their knowledge of life cycles studied in science previously. They researched the life cycle of a newt and created a diagram showing each stage and wrote a description of what happens at each these stages.

Nizar (Red)

Emily (Blue)