



Kirtlington
C.E. School

Kirtlington C E School
Heyford Road
Kirtlington
Oxon OX5 3HL
Telephone (01869) 350210

E-mail: office.3500@kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk

Website: www.kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk.

1st May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are well and continuing to be safe. I would like to extend my thanks to you all, but especially to the children, for completing yet another week of learning at home. Your positivity and support is very much appreciated at this time. It continues to be a strange and challenging time for all of us and we understand that some days things may go well- your children will be keen to take part in activities, be organised and 'on it', but other days it may be like wading through treacle! We appreciate all you are doing – we do not expect you to be taking on the teaching role but just supporting your children in their learning. When they are faced with learning challenges and have tried a growth mindset, they can leave the question or task and move on to something else. On days when it is all too much, please just spend quality time together. Please remember, if you have any concerns or you need any support from the school, please let us know.

Keep up the good work -you are doing a wonderful job juggling so many balls.

Reading 'in unusual places' competition

Thank you for all the entries we have received. It has been wonderful to see all the children's photographs. Look out for photographs of the teachers reading in unusual places too sometime next week. We would like the children to vote for their favourite one and we will give more details on this next week as well.

Head Teachers Award

Congratulations to **George Crossley** for making the shortlist of the 2020 Children's Poetry Competition. We can't wait to see his poem 'Give Yourself a Smile' in print when we return to school. Well done George!

If you have any achievements we can celebrate during this time, please let us know as we would love to share them with you. Please just email the school office.

School 'rainbow' challenge

If you know of someone isolating on their own in the community at the moment, or maybe someone who lives near you, we would like to know so we can send them a 'rainbow' card from the school to hopefully brighten up their day. Please let us know if you send someone a card as well.



Headteacher: Louise Williams

Chair of Governors: Paul Clifford

School Business Manager: Ruth Pangu

Happy 'April' Birthday

We would like to say a belated '*happy birthday*' to the following children (please let us know if we have missed anyone!)

Isabel, Abby, George, Megan, JoJo, Mortimer, Henry W, Cai, Jack, Oliver and Anna.

VE day Celebrations

Next week, we will be celebrating VE day with some activities through the google classrooms. We also hope to put a VE banner at the front of the school and if you would like to decorate some bunting, there is a template attached with this newsletter. You are welcome to attach your bunting to our school railings from next Friday with a piece of string, wool or something similar. Please adhere to the social distancing rules and government guidelines if you wish to do this.

Class letters

We hope you all received your class letter last week. Please contact the school office if you have not received it yet. Many thanks.

Free School Meals

Should your circumstances change over the next few weeks or months, please see this link for further support. <http://schools.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/free-school-meals>

Church Team

Thank you to Gareth, our Rector, for providing us with a wonderful virtual collective worship this week. We are grateful to the team for supporting us all during this time and we look forward to meeting Nick, our new priest, next week.

Create Art Club-a message from Hayley.

I have started an online create club and hope it will be a great opportunity for children to stay connected with friends from school in a positive and creative way. The theme this term is 'Around The World'. We will visit different countries and continents to explore the various forms of art. I will supply a craft box full of materials to each child, so that they have all the materials required (except for paint).

If this is something of interest, further information can be found at <https://www.thecreationstation.co.uk/activities/online-create-club-around-the-world-wednesday1530-witney-and-kidlington/2020-04-29>

Create Club 5-11 Years - Wednesday@15:30 - Witney and Kidlington

Around the World - Online Create Club Programme Enjoy an exciting creative programme develop to inspire your child's imagination and learn through hands on creative fun in this interactive online session.
www.thecreationstation.co.uk

School Office

Just a reminder if you want to contact school or individual teachers you can do this via email at office.3500@kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk The office email account is managed throughout the day, and emails can be forwarded on to teachers.



Support for mental health

In these uncertain times if you feel you may need some additional support or your children do, a 24/7 mental health helpline has been launched in Oxfordshire. This round-the-clock helpline makes it easier and quicker to get the right advice you might need for your own or others mental health. This service operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week and temporarily takes pressure off 111 for people who need mental health care when their situation is not life threatening. The phone numbers and further information can be found at

<https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/news/24-7-mental-health-helpline-replaces-111-in-oxfordshire-and-buckinghamshire/>

Stay safe and please look after yourself and each other. We look forward to seeing you all as soon as possible.

Warm regards,

Miss Williams and the team



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