



THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST

# Great Sankey Primary School

*'Together We Learn and Grow'*



Newsletter Summer Term: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Dear parents and carers,

It was lovely to see some of you this week as you came to pick up your child's workbooks. We hope you managed a happy Easter, albeit a stranger than normal one. Our summer term started with staff back on Google Classrooms and Twitter setting work and new tasks. Welfare calls will begin next Monday onwards but if you need to contact us at any point please ring the school office or email us at [admin@greatsankeyprimary.warrington.sch.uk](mailto:admin@greatsankeyprimary.warrington.sch.uk).

To all the parents, you continue to amaze us with your enthusiasm, creativity and responses to the work being set. You are all doing a fantastic job in supporting their learning but most importantly, in keeping them safe and happy in these unprecedented times. Please remember to strike the balance between work, schooling and family time. Do not put too much pressure on yourselves, you are not teachers and we know you are also trying to complete your own work loads too. We are here to help so if you are feeling anxious about anything, please contact us. Don't forget to visit our website and the COVID-19 section as there are lots of resources to support learning and well-being for children and adults. The link can be found here:

<https://greatsankey-warrington.secure-dbprimary.com/warrington/primary/greatsankey/site/pages/homelearning>

Please continue to stay safe, take care and we will be together again soon.

*Mrs Briggs*

## Google Classroom

Staff have worked so hard, and in quick time, to get these platforms set up and running in such a way that they can continue to provide quality education at a distance for the children in these challenging circumstances. All children have their own login and they will need to use this to log onto the platform each day to find out their daily tasks. If you are having trouble logging on then please email into school and we will help: [admin@greatsankeyprimary.warrington.sch.uk](mailto:admin@greatsankeyprimary.warrington.sch.uk).

Each day from Monday - Friday, new tasks will be uploaded by the class teacher onto the classwork tab and will focus around the core skills of maths and English. The task for the day, may refer to a specific page in the workbooks that the teacher wants the child to complete. If your child wants to take a photo and upload to the Google Classroom to show their teacher they have completed it then great, but this is not an expectation. Most of the workbooks also have answer pages at the back for self-marking – no cheating before it's done though! Pages in the books must only be completed when the teacher asks them to do so. Children may also be assigned some writing tasks which may require them to be uploaded, the teacher will give further guidance around this on the assigned task instructions. Alongside the maths and English there will be the ongoing wider curriculum projects which can be dipped in and out of throughout the term as well as ideas to keep mentally and physically healthy. The tasks provided each week for our Nursery children look slightly different as there are no workbooks, but activities set by the teachers are designed to engage and meet the needs of our youngest pupils.

There is an expectation that all children engage in the daily learning, but we do recognise that families may have many different pressures upon them at this time so we are just asking that you do what you can and if you need further guidance or support then please email into school or ring during school hours and we will endeavor to help. You are doing a great job of supporting your child's education and wellbeing, and we thank you!

### Free School Meals

Since closing our doors, we have continued to ensure that those children who normally receive benefit-related Free School Meals have been sent vouchers. Voucher values will now be in line with national guidance and for this week will be distributed as previously. Guidance will follow once the new Edenred system is linked to school.

### Residential Refunds

Further to writing to you prior to the Easter break, we are continuing to work with the travel and insurance companies to recoup funds and return monies to our families. Please be assured that we are trying to get this as quickly as possible so that we can get the refunds to you. We will continue to update you with regards to this.

### Transition

We are working with our secondary colleagues to ensure that, regardless of when we return, a transition programme will be in place to support all our Year 6 children. Already our Transition Hub within the Trust have met to plan some exciting events and are thinking very creatively around ways to support all children. High schools will also be contacting parents direct with further information.

Transition into another class within school is always a carefully planned event at GSP with dedicated time given for the children to spend with their new teacher and class. This year will be no different in terms of the thought, time and support we give to the children and this process. Once we are clearer in terms of time frames for return, this will feed in to how we plan this for the children and staff and consideration around class arrangements. As always, we will keep you informed.

For more information please click here to be taken to the website:

<https://greatsankey-warrington.secure-dbprimary.com/warrington/primary/greatsankey/site/pages/homelearning/transition>

### GSP TV

Don't forget to tune into GSP TV on You Tube. Story time is at 3pm every Tuesday and Thursday and more PE challenges and videos will continue to be uploaded. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K2rfluTf6Tk>



### **Stay Safe Online: What is Houseparty?**

Houseparty is an app that many young people are using to stay in touch with their peers and play games during the lockdown. This is a fun app and an exciting way to talk to their friends in a time where they can't speak face to face. It allows users to join a group video call with up to eight other people at once. Users must be 13 years old and above in order to create a Houseparty account.

More information and safety tips can be found here: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/what-%E2%80%A6houseparty-guide-parents-and-carers>



### **Top tips for parents and carers:**

Explore the settings on the app with your child.

Discuss who your child will chat with on the app. Are there people you do not want them to talk to? For example, are friends of friends allowed? Set out your expectations before downloading the app.

Discuss when, where, and for how long your child will use the app. Agree together on an acceptable time limit and a place where they can use it. You could ask that they use it in a shared family space, or in their bedroom with the door open. Try to come to a compromise, and remember children want their privacy too.

Set some ground rules about behaviour on the app. Different topics of conversation or images are appropriate for different groups, i.e. family, close friends and other acquaintances. Talk together about what things are appropriate before any calls.

Give your child a strategy for dealing with any problems on the app. For example, end the call, shut the app and come and talk to a trusted adult.



Children (and adults!) are currently using a range of new apps to communicate with one another. Whilst these are a great way to stay in touch, they also come with their own risks. Please continue to monitor your child closely whilst online. Our website has a dedicated section to keeping safe online and what to do if you need to report a problem. Please talk to your children regularly about this and any concerns can be directly reported to [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk) The NSPCC website also has some excellent resources and support materials for families on [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

## Nursery and Reception (EYFS)

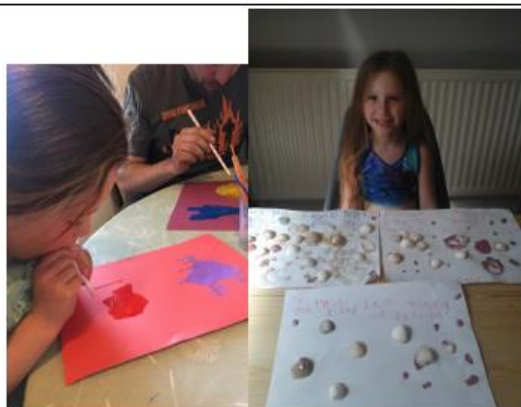
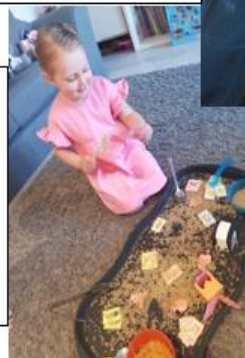


### NURSERY & EYFS

The children have been working incredibly hard on their topics of family and space as well as improving their reading, writing and maths skills.



We have loved seeing all the children's learning over Twitter and Google Classroom and have been blown away with how determined, motivated and creative the children have been whilst learning at home. We were particularly impressed with the rockets that were designed and created for the Space topic for Lime and Cherry Tree classes.



Two lovely examples of home learning.

To all the Mums and Dads - you are doing an amazing job !!! Well done!

Keep up the hard work everyone- we miss you and can't wait to see you all.

Arnold's amazing doubling with Minions and a mirror.



Tabitha had a lovely St George's day.

She made a shield and made a red and white picnic all by herself for her and her sisters' lunch.

When asking her what St George's day is about she replied; "When you celebrate being English and do lots of fun things."



## Years One and Two (KS1)

Following a very sunny Easter and lots of yummy chocolate eggs the children in KS1 have been raring to go and very enthusiastic about starting their new learning challenges. Teachers are really happy that so many children are engaging with and enjoying daily activities posted on Google Classroom and love the messages and photographs they receive from parents and children each day!

Our new geography topic has been a big hit with Australian art, landmarks, food, flags and animals invading Great Sankey this week! The children have loved reading the book 'There's an Ouch in my Pouch' and written their own super story versions as Willaby Wallaby, complete with brilliant adjectives and some authentic Aussie lingo! We are so proud of you all - you are doing a bonzer job!



## Years Three and Four (LKS2)

This week we have started our new topic Walk Like an Egyptian. And even though we are learning from home, we still started our topic off with a launch day! The children had to make their own pyramid, from objects around the house, that had to stand freely for a least 10 seconds. This is just a few of the pyramids that were sent to us but don't forget to watch the LKS2 Launch Day video on Google Classrooms.

We are very impressed with how the children have come back to school this week and how well they are completing their daily tasks. Next week will start using the booklets that you collected from school this week. Please only complete the pages which you are told to do so on the daily tasks. Remember to keep sending us updates on Google classroom or twitter as we love seeing all your messages and photographs. We almost have full classes now on Google Classroom. If you have not managed to log on with your individual login then please let us know so we can help.

We are missing you lots and can't wait to see you all soon. Stay safe everybody





## Years Five and Six (UKS2)

This week we started back at 'school' and kicked off with the Summer term – the weather is certainly up for it! We hope that you all had a lovely Easter break and it has been lovely to see some of you when collecting the pupil work books this week, all be it at a safe distance. Almost all children in UKS2 are now logged on to the Google Classroom using their individual accounts, but there are still a few from each class yet to login. Please can you aim to do this over the coming week as this is ultimately how we will set you work for your CGP books.

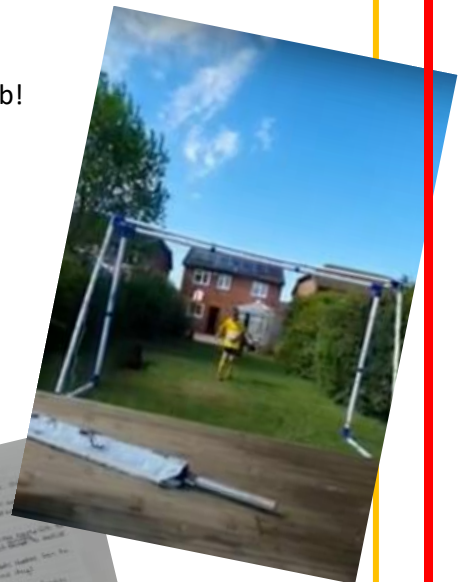
This week, children have been working on a variety of activities from BBC Live Lessons, looking at characteristics they have inherited from their parents, sketching houses of wisdom and writing information texts on the Victorian workhouse. It has been great to be able to continue with our class novel, *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty, and I'm glad some of you are enjoying listening to the chapters on GSP TV!

Also this week, many children took part in Wednesday's Keepy Up Challenge set by Warrington School Sports. I love how inventive some of you were (keeping up toilet rolls!) and was very impressed by the total of 99 from Elder tree class! We have also been lucky enough to see the 'Star Link Satellites' in the skies this week and it was lovely to hear some of you have been out with your binoculars and telescopes looking out!

Please keep sending in your photographs, videos and examples of work on to the Google Classroom / Twitter – we really do love to hear from you all and see what you're getting up to.

Thank you to you all for your continued support at home – you're doing a great job!

Team UKS2



### Baghdad The place to be!



The House of Wisdom

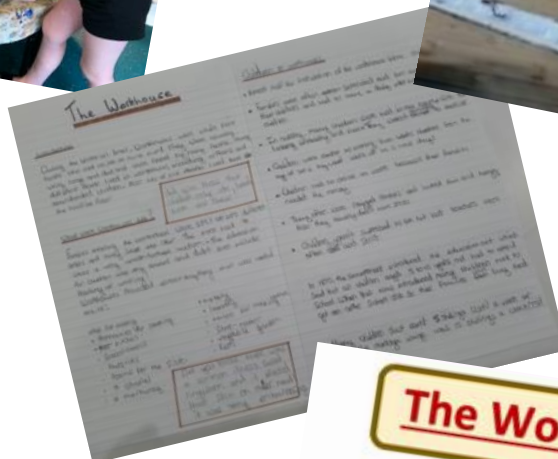


### Golden Age

Come and see Islam in its golden age. Its beauty will blow your mind. The Islamic Golden Age is a period of many scientific and medical advancements.

### House of Wisdom

Come and meet Abbasid Caliph Harun al-Rashid and his son, al-Ma'mun, who have established the House of Wisdom. They can translate many languages for you and will write any book you desire. While you're here why not read some of the many books they've translated with some of the best scholars in the world.



### The Workhouse

#### Introduction

You may not have heard of a Workhouse before but if you were alive during the Victorian period of history, this is most definitely a place you would have heard of and most definitely a place you would not want to visit! Workhouses were often large, gloomy looking buildings that looked just as uninviting as they were supposed to be inside. If you were poor and couldn't afford to eat or have your own accommodation – a workhouse was a place that you could stay and get fed for carrying out work. Sounds helpful and kind doesn't it? Well, read on more in this information text to find out the real truth about these places and just what life was really like on the inside!



An image of a workhouse in Southwell, Nottinghamshire

