



THE CHALLENGE ACADEMY TRUST

Great Sankey Primary School

'Together We Learn and Grow'



Newsletter Summer Term: Thursday 7th May 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you are all well, keeping safe and healthy. I wrote to you earlier this week with regards to the endless speculation in the press over schools reopening. It is difficult to not be pulled into the debate as this is unhelpful and unsettling for many, especially as we are only just past the peak on the outbreak. I would like to be clear with you all however, we will only return when it is safe to do so. Safe for the children, safe for staff, safe for all our families and safe for the wider school community. We are already planning for a range of scenarios to ensure that when any announcements are made, we are ready. This also includes considering all aspects of transition across the school. We are hoping that following the Prime minister's announcement we will potentially have more clarity over what the next stage will be. As always, once we are clear, I will keep you all notified. Until then please remember that the places we have in school are only for the most vulnerable children and those of key workers who have no other possible safe arrangements. Numbers in school continue to be small.

This weekend sees the country staying at home to celebrate the VE Day 75 anniversary. We hope that your child has enjoyed participating in the activities shared today. It has been lovely to see some of you taking part in events and sharing these already. Please continue to share photos and videos with us as we are going to create a special video with them all so we can be 'virtually' together in our commemorations.

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. These are constantly being updated and more resources added. 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

We continue to be astounded at the wonderful things which are going on within your homes, it is such a pleasure to look at the different Google Classrooms to see the photos, videos and read the communication on the class stream between parents and teachers, teachers and children and more so between the children themselves. It's such a good way for them to continue to communicate during this difficult period in time and I know it has lifted the spirits of a lot of our children who are missing school and their friends. It's great that so many of our families are engaging on the platform but please do not feel under any pressure to upload work, photos or videos, just a quick comment on the stream is enough to let the teachers know that the assigned tasks have been completed and your child is engaging in the work.

As you are probably aware, we have relaunched house points this week and this has created a great deal of excitement on the Google Classrooms. Children can be awarded house points when they complete their assigned tasks and for other activities they wish to share with their teachers. Staff have access to the class Dojo charts at home so can add the rewards onto it daily. They'll keep the children updated each week so they know how far off they are from their next badge!

As always, if you are experiencing any difficulty with the online learning, please discuss with the teacher during the weekly check-in call or put a note onto the learning platform. Our fantastic teachers will be only too happy to offer support and advice. And don't forget, you're all doing a great job!

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 are in line with national guidance and will continue to be distributed as previously until further notice. Please contact the school email on admin@greatsankeyprimary.warrington.sch.uk if you think your circumstances have changed and you may

Residential Refunds

We are delighted to share that we have been able to begin with some refunds with regards to the residential trips. You will have received direct emails from school about this. We continue to work with our insurance company and they are working quickly to support us with this. We thank you for your continued support and patience.

Transition

We continue to work 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 planned 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.

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>

Miss Aspinall

We would like to wish Miss Aspinall lots of good luck as she begins her maternity leave. We hope that she finds a little time to relax before her new bundle of joy arrives. Take care and see you soon!



Mrs Moore, Mrs Christopher and Miss Pilkington will be working with Willow class until her return.

Parent Survey

You will shortly receive a brief survey that we would appreciate your support in completing.

This is to allow us both as a school and as a wider Trust to gain the current views of our families. We thank you for the overwhelming positive feedback you have been giving us so far but it is important we get overall views across different areas to help with further planning.

VE Day

We will share lots more examples in our next newsletter. In the meantime, if you walk past school during your daily exercise, take a look at the school gates or even better, add to them with your own VE work or pictures you create to cheer others up in our school community.



Nursery and Reception (EYFS)



In Nursery, the children are loving the weekly challenges being set. Have a look.....



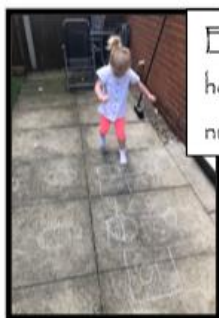
Fraser doing his maths challenge which was a shape hunt around the house.



Tobie and his brother Joey made a restaurant outside.



Molly has been making some cards to go into the food parcels for the vulnerable in the



Esme has been playing hopscotch and learning her numbers.



Celeste and Charlie have released their butterflies.



Ava and Freya made a shop.

In our Reception classes, the children have been working so hard on their space theme- alongside their phonics, maths and fitness.....



Phonics learning at home.

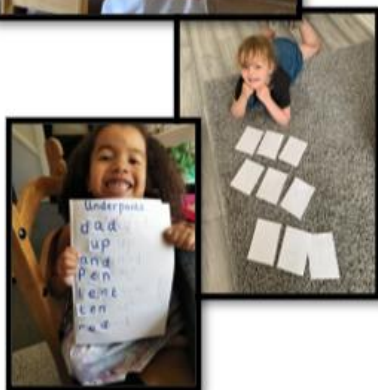
Doing zumba.....



Making telescopes to see outer space.



Making alien hats.



We love hearing from you all - so please keep sending us messages/photos over Google Classroom or Twitter - we are all very proud of how hard you are working. Well done everyone!

Years One and Two (KS1)

The children in KS1 have been really engaged with their new summer science topic all about animals. They have been looking at how they care for their own pets to help understand what animals need to survive and thrive and been on the lookout for wildlife in their gardens and local area. We have been following the development of our frogspawn on Google Classroom and lots of children have found some of their own in local ponds so they can learn about the lifecycle of a frog live and up close! Others have been making their own feeders to entice birds into the garden - we have had lots of spotting going on and even tally and bar charts to record finding. The children have also been classifying animals into different groups and investigating what they eat. Some have used venn diagrams to show this. They have loved showing off their knowledge of tricky vocabulary like omnivore to their parents! The teachers are very impressed too.

Another big hit this week has been learning about and preparing for VE Day. The children have really enjoyed getting crafty and making their own posters and bunting. Many have been busy baking ready for their picnics and garden parties!

We hope you all have a lovely time!



Years Three and Four (LKS2)

LKS2 have been busy working hard over the last two weeks. They are enjoying using their workbooks and we have been really impressed with all the English and Maths work that they have been doing and uploading. They are also really enjoying their curriculum and science projects and have made a great start learning all about the digestive system and the different types of teeth we have and the Ancient Egyptians numbers, hieroglyphics and mummies.

This week we have started giving house points to all the children who have uploaded, turned in or commented on their work and we can't believe how many point we have already given! Keep up the hard work everyone, we are all really proud of you. Stay safe and we will see you all again soon.



Years Five and Six (UKS2)

I can't believe that we are now in the month of May and are already almost halfway through the first half term of Summer 1! It has been lovely to talk to all of our UKS2 families over the past two weeks and hear how you are getting on at home. Many of you have now started to post photographs and pictures of all of the work you are doing at home and this is great to see – keep it up! As we would in school, we have also now started to continue awarding house points for all of the fantastic things that you have been doing so let's see who can earn their next award!

In classes this week, It's been lovely to see some of the memories from across the year shared in short memory videos. There are lots of photos and pictures of events from the year so far, including some of the songs that Y5 liked to sing a long too! It has also been nice to see some of the early VE day work, where some children have already designed their own medals and spitfire. Well done! In Oak Tree Class, some children also celebrated 'May The Fourth' in honour of Star Wars – May The Force be with you! We're not sure Mrs Williams was quite up for watching the Star Wars box sets though!

In their English learning, children have continued to listen to the story of Street Child by Berlie Doherty and have written some letters in the style of the character, Jim Jarvis, explaining what life has been like for him since he left the Workhouse in search of his sisters. We have been very impressed with the level and quality of some of your writing – fantastic UKS2! Keep up all your hard work! 😊



Keep sending in all
your home learning
activities!



**THE BEAST OF
BUCKINGHAM PALACE**
By David Williams

Age Recommendation:
9
Genre:
Adventure, Action

The Beast of Buckingham Palace is a story about a small boy whose Father is King of England but is being controlled by The Lord Protector, the Kings closest companion. Although, he is trying to summon a beast to conquer England. As the small boy (Alfred) goes on a quest to stop the Lord Protector many people around the Buckingham Palace try to prevent him from doing this.



Evolution

Evolution is the process of change to animal and plant species over long periods of time, or how plant species and animals have developed from generation to generation. Plants and animals produce offspring of the same kind. These are similar but not exactly the same as their parents.

