

### Letter 3



27/3/2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

This poem has been sent in by the Arthurs family, they read it and felt it appropriate for us all:

*The buildings were big and people would smile, and travel they would mile by mile  
But sick they become in numbers it grew  
Businesses worried communities too  
Things stop for a bit, the world slowed it's roll  
The virus has certainly taken its toll  
But what they then saw from slowing things down, is in fact they now had less reasons  
to frown  
Families are gathered, what game shall we play?  
Pass me the blue crayon, give mummy the grey.  
Dads home guys! He'll read us a book then all of us together will cook  
The lungs of the planet caught a small break, less travel meant less pollution to make  
People did realise they'd all be ok !  
They don't need so much to get through the day  
Maybe this virus that caused so much stress showed the whole world that more can be  
less!*

*Stay safe, be together.*

### Learning at home

We have had a number of requests for additional work for home learning. I would just like to clarify that learning takes so many different forms; it is not filling in work sheets or completing pages of writing. Learning takes place in the home all of the time so please be confident, your own skills, talking, playing games, making junk models and having fun together are critical in learning. In this beautiful weather the garden could be your classroom, bird spotting, minibeast hunting, digging and planting. Your job is primarily to keep your children safe and enjoy this time with them. Please make sure that you keep weekends school free for family time.

Many of you might worry that the children will forget their learning and fall behind – we are all in the same boat and most things they have learnt will not disappear– you are doing a great job. The work and links we have sent are a guide and a start. Set yourselves some

family targets – learn a new language together (sign language is free to learn at the moment), do some family fitness activities, cook and eat together. The one thing you could focus on is reading – read together, out loud, read to each other, read yourself so that the children understand how important it is, enjoy books.

We are here to help so ring us. We will set some grids up with links to specific websites for the Easter holiday – this hopefully will give some new challenges and ideas to support.

## What is working well???

Please share successes and things that have worked well in your homes. These are some of the images we have had this week – please fill our in boxes!!!



Playing cards – a number of learning packs were without playing cards. We had ordered them and now they have arrived. After school today there will be a box by the school gate with some in and an ideas sheet – please come past school as one of your fitness activities over the weekend and pick up a pack with the an instruction sheet. There will be enough for one pack per family. In the box we will also leave some achievement cards – we will honour these when we come back so please start home ones if you wish – we will also put the template on the website as well.

Crane project - We want to cover the school gates in strings of origami cranes. The crane is a symbol of hope and peace and has been used in Hiroshima (Japan) to commemorate the story of a young lady called Sadako. Sadako showed great determination and bravery, read more about her story [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Children%27s\\_Peace\\_Monument](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Children%27s_Peace_Monument)

Her friends continued her mission to fold 1000 origami cranes after she died – involving people all over Japan. Today people still hang cranes on her memorial in Hiroshima.

We would like the children, friends and family to send their thoughts and prayers to school – we will then write these on origami paper and fold them into cranes that will be hung on the gates as a sign of hope and peace. Please spread the word – we would like this to be a project for all.. We want to give hope to those that write and read the messages. Please send messages to your class email address or send directly to my headteacher address



[Headteacher.3260@st-blaise.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:Headteacher.3260@st-blaise.oxon.sch.uk)

Please take care and keep in touch. Now that we are in the swing of things class teachers will be sending regular emails to families – please respond and ask questions. There is always someone in school time that can speak to you and the website is undergoing lots of changes to support. After Easter we will be using Google classroom – information to follow.

Thinking of you all,

Ruth Leach and the staff of St Blaise

