

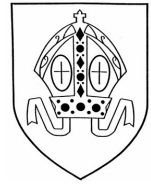


# The Cathedral School Newsletter

Victoria Road, Chelmsford, CM1 1PA

Tel: 01245 354459 email: [office@cathedralschool.essex.sch.uk](mailto:office@cathedralschool.essex.sch.uk)

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**John 14.1-9** Jesus said 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?'

Friday 1st May 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19): latest information and advice [Click Here](#)

## Head Teacher's Message

Dear Parents,

Some six weeks ago now, I wrote to you at short notice and welcomed you to The Cathedral School Staff.

By now you will have experienced some of the joys of teaching and you will either be reconsidering your career options having found your calling and decided to join our waning profession or you will be looking forward to hearing the plan for an imminent return to normal school!

When "normal" schooling ended, we set about looking for the most supportive ways to run a remote school. We started by planning and organising a curriculum which was found on the website and for KS1 and EYFS, also on Tapestry.

Like all organisations during this crisis we have had to find our way forward to achieve a consistent and fair level for all and then keep building.

We took on Tapestry because it allows both the staff of the school and you to access learning at a convenient time. Feedback from the majority suggest that a flexible approach which allows laptops to be used outside of parental work needs is the best route.

Using Tapestry allows us to post videos of lessons being taught by a teacher; not necessarily one of our class teachers, but for example a White Rose Math's Lesson. The videos are freely available but the worksheets are subscription only and have been purchased by us. To access them please go to the documents section on Tapestry.

The dangers of starting lessons with the video of a teacher explaining a new or difficult concept is the anxiety it can create. In the classroom setting a teacher is identifying previous knowledge and assessing where the child is and managing their next steps by that interaction and response.

In isolation that can work, but the doubts are there, is this work well-matched to where my child is? Is it too hard? Is it too easy? Pupils could be reluctant to engage for many reasons, and not least because home is not traditionally our natural place of work and the transition for children to see it as a classroom is possibly more challenging than it is for adults.

I said, and we will teach to cover the gaps in learning when we return to school and there are so many ways of learning that can be explored at home; however, it is a concern when we have invested in a remote platform and work is prepared for the children to have some lack of engagement with the curriculum we are providing to keep the children's learning on track.

If you have not used the resources provided, if you have not posted your children's work on Tapestry for the teacher to comment on, you are missing a trick.

More learning will happen by the engagement of response and next steps that we can post, including the videos the staff will put up this coming week explaining misconceptions and providing help.

We now want to fill in the gaps by adding more; we are exploring the opportunities for the children to see each other, such as "Show and Tell" and the ability to have class circle time with their teacher. We are also aiming to provide a phone call when needed from a teacher, Mrs Quinn, Mrs Russell or myself to see how things are going. This week we have supported parents by telephone to join Tapestry. Best of all, it has been lovely to have a conversation with your children when you have put them on the phone.

It is essential as times goes on that the children access this term's curriculum. I can only urge you again to post some of your children's work over the week so that we can support their learning.

Every day brings change, we look forward to the dangers passing so we can all be together again. We have plans in hand for that stage, whenever it may come, as we all live from day to day.

I hope and pray that everyone is well and rising to the challenges of this crisis, knowing they are not alone, God is with us in all adversity.

Linda Wiskin

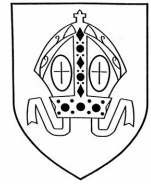


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## KEEPING IN TOUCH!

To keep up to date with our most recent information and learning tasks.

Please check out:

- Tapestry for the whole school, where you can find our latest learning and share learning and respond  
**(Please register if you haven't already)**
- Twitter page [twitter.com/cathschool](https://twitter.com/cathschool) where there will be regular update/challenges/videos and a place for you to respond and share. (See the latest staff video message)
- Latest learning is found on our webpage under each class <https://www.cathedralschool.co.uk/school-info>
- Extra weekly learning go to 'Picture News' <https://www.cathedralschool.co.uk/school-info/curriculum/picture-news>
- Or email [office@cathedralschool.essex.sch.uk](mailto:office@cathedralschool.essex.sch.uk) and we will ensure it will get passed to the relevant people

## SEND Navigator Project



We appreciate that these are unsettling times for our families and children and young people with SEND. In response to COVID-19, we want to let you know that you and your families can be supported by our two SEND Navigator Project Leads: Jenny Kinsville and Ondrea Bloom. Part of their role is to support and signpost you to our SEND services that you may find supportive and helpful at this current time. Do you have any questions or concerns about your current situation that they can help with? If so, please contact them at [TheSENDNavigators@essex.gov.uk](mailto:TheSENDNavigators@essex.gov.uk)

