



Hi everyone, we're missing you all terribly but hope that you are keeping safe and well. We would love to see any of your creations and achievements and invite you to email us at reception@lower-farm.walsall.sch.uk

We appreciate, and share your disappointment that school will not be opening as normal after the Easter holidays. To ensure that all our wonderful children can continue to thrive in safety we have compiled a list of further activities that can be done at home.

We would like to invite your child to take part in a writing activity. We appreciate that each child is at a different stage in their literacy ability but would like them to write and draw about a favourite story/ TV/ computer character. This could be simply a picture and words to label the character, a simple sentence about what they like about the character or it could be a whole story! This activity could be repeated and developed so your child can write and draw about all their favourite stories and characters. This of course will also develop their reading ability as you continue to share stories everyday; thus enhancing their own imagination and vocabulary.

To enable your child to build words to write these wonderful sentences we would encourage you to access jolly phonics songs, phonics play games and alphablocks clips on the internet and engage in word building activities. Many of the children will have learnt all the single letter sounds of the alphabet and are beginning to learn the sounds that 2 letters and 3 letters make together: for example, sh ch th ph wh qu oo oa ou ow ai igh ... Further to this, to help your child continue to develop and maintain the physical strength to write for a sustained amount of time making creations using playdough and plasticine can be extremely useful and good fun.

We are all very aware that the weather has been beautiful, as we are told to stay in, but if you do have access to a safe outside space then planting and exploring the environment can be a great source of learning for your child. We would encourage you to go on a bug hunt, find out about the different life cycles of the insects and plants and maybe if you are able do some planting discuss the changes that occur over time. This can also be a great opportunity to encourage your child to write: a diary of a seed or bug fact files are two possible activities. Measurement activities can also be encouraged if you were able to plant seeds: you could make a measurement chart to track the growth of the plant.

Maths is incredibly important to your child's development. We would like to set a maths challenge. We would like your child to find out which numbers can be shared equally into 2 groups. This can be achieved with any physical objects that can be touched and moved. If at all possible, you could combine the idea of making a healthy salad by sharing the food items on to 2 plates. We would like the children to find a way of recording their findings by writing sums, drawing pictures and or taking photos. This activity can be extended by increasing the number range or by sharing into 3 , 4 or 5 groups.

We would like to reiterate that we miss you all and can't wait to see you all again very soon. Keep safe and well and if you are able to take part in any of the activities suggested then please send your achievements to the email stated above as we would love to see them.

We look forward to staying in touch and if you do have any queries then please do not hesitate to email us and we will get back to you. Furthermore, please stay active as much as you can; going out around your local area as a family, riding bikes and scooters and playing in the garden can help our minds as well as keep our bodies healthy.

Oh and before we leave you for a short while, any creations that your child has made, drawn or painted that they are especially proud of can be emailed too. Please include on the email whether you give permission for the artwork to be shared on our school website and social media. The rainbows that were made to honour the NHS at this difficult time were particularly inspirational.

All our best wishes, your dedicated teachers,

Miss Morrall, Mrs Francis, Miss Bloomer and Mrs Abercrombie