

Brockwell Junior School

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Headteacher: Miss Catherine Holmes

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Emma Crutchley

Monday 27th April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have been able to enjoy the sunshine and had some enjoyable, precious moments with your family. The teachers enjoyed sharing conversations with so many of you last week and are following up any queries you raised. Please do get in touch if we haven't resolved your password reset or you need further discussion regarding any of the online based platforms / websites.

I am continually reflecting on our remote learning provision and comparing with other schools and different phases. I'd like to reiterate that whilst there may appear to be so much to cover, the links and suggestions are a guide - do just make daily selections from that provided. I completely understand the demands of home learning and would like to reassure you that, whilst learning is the area we will champion and support you with, the benefits of being with parents with close support will be tremendous. Using this time to look at the wider curriculum areas will have a long lasting positive impact on your child's development. It has been fantastic to see all the gardening, sewing, baking, drawing, reading, board games, bird watching, cycling, walking, and many other activities you have been doing. Do keep sharing these experiences on Seesaw.

If you continue to prioritise www.whiterosemaths.com, Doodlemaths (if your child has an account), reading and www.activelearnprimary.co.uk your child will be learning the age or ability appropriate areas.

May I also remind you that we have a community licence (user brockwell password brockwell) for www.interactive-resources.co.uk

PE PLAY at home - The website address is: home.jasmineactive.com

Parent email: parent@brockwellj-1.com

Password: brockwellj

I'm constantly reminded how positive and dedicated the staff here are. Despite any anxiety regarding being in harm's way, all who could were quick to volunteer to come in over Easter to support essential workers and have been communicating behind the scenes in new ways to ensure all children get a consistent level of work and opportunity. They are also driving new developments ready for our return. All our Teaching Assistants are completing level 1 Forest School, Seesaw and Apple Teacher training and many are in on our rota updating our resource areas. My thanks to everyone here and to you too for the support and compassion you have shown us all.

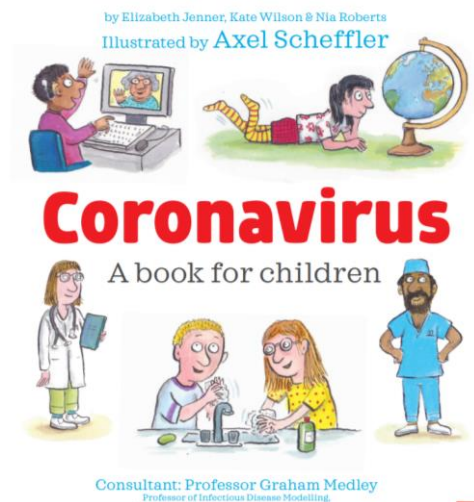
Working Together to...be Safe, Smile and Succeed

Whilst we will take direction from government and any school openings are speculation at the moment, I am working with others to ensure that we are ready and have correctly prioritised transition, basic skills, nurture and well-being opportunities when school reopens.

An action plan for transition is developing. It includes early contact with vulnerable children's families so they can come and spend time in school or visit their next school; a helpful report format, especially to help secondary colleagues allocate support where needed; small group tours with social distancing in mind; a virtual tour of the school to share with year 2 children (some secondary schools are looking at this too) - and so many other ideas to make change a positive one. We work with several secondary schools all with different approaches. However, this will be one of my priorities over the weeks ahead.

Mrs Summerbridge shared two super resources with me today that I would like to share with you too.

Axel Scheffler has illustrated a digital book for primary school age children, free for anyone to read on screen or print out, about the coronavirus and the measures taken to control it. Published by Nosy Crow, and written by staff within the company, the book has had expert input: Professor Graham Medley of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine acted as a consultant, and the company also had advice from two head teachers and a child psychologist.



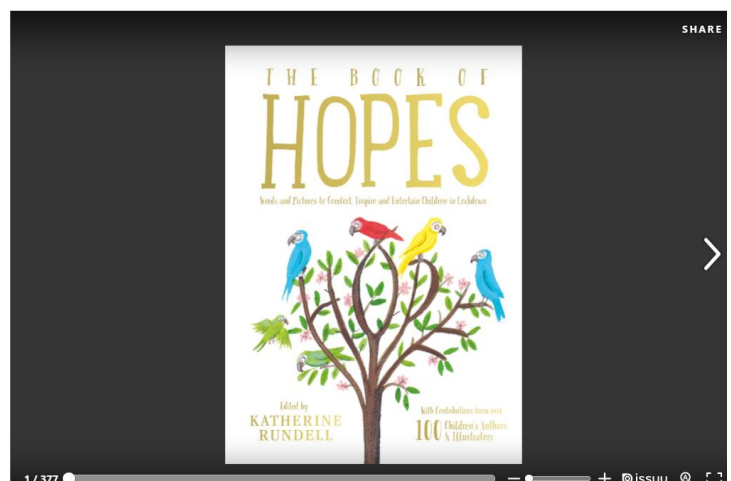
https://nosycrowcoronavirus.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/Coronavirus_ABookForChildren.pdf

The Book of Hopes

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/book-hopes/>

Read the book

Completely free for all children and families, the extraordinary collection of short stories, poems, essays and pictures has contributions from more than 110 children's writers and illustrators, including Lauren Child, Anthony Horowitz, Greg James and Chris Smith, Michael Morpurgo, Liz Pichon, Axel Scheffler, Francesca Simon, Jacqueline Wilson and Katherine Rundell.



Our Public Health Department have produced an anxiety toolkit booklet that you may find interesting. It is completely normal to be experiencing a wide range of emotions. This booklet may support you and your family in identifying these and responding to them.

Finally, I'm so delighted to let you know that Mr Power has safely welcomed his second son, Archie Ralph, born this weekend. Huge congratulations and much love to all the family.

Yours sincerely, Catherine Holmes

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