

30th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Closing the school last week was extremely difficult for everyone; staff, pupils and parents. I really appreciated all the support you have given me in making the difficult decisions I have had to make to keep everyone safe, minimise risk of spreading the infection as well as supporting parents in the key worker roles.

At the beginning of the week we had 26 children in school with about 30 staff but since Thursday this has reduced to between 5-10 each day. All the classrooms have been deep cleaned and we are minimising the spaces we use in school and will be moving around the school using different rooms every two weeks to ensure we can keep up with the cleaning.

Just before the shutdown we sent home a pack of activities and resources for the children to do at home. The activities are meant to be fun as we realise that school cannot be replicated at home, but the children may still want some structure to their day.

Since being closed the staff have been busy preparing more work, resources, sourcing appropriate online resources as well setting up our own Ash Lea YouTube channel; yes, we have finally made it to the small screen. We have posted stories, songs and even some of the best dancing you have ever seen! We will be posting new materials every week so please keep tuning in. I would like to thank Braiden from Beech class for signing and saying the Ash Lea School code.

The link below will take you straight to the YouTube channel, but it can be accessed via YouTube and from the front page of our Ash Lea web page. <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0PFVfdr1lvWRRXltkFlw5A/</u>

Our use of technology does not finish there as we have reinstated out twitter account – This can be found @ashleaschool. We have over a 100 followers which includes Colin Pettigrew who is head of Children and Young Peoples services for NCC!

After the Easter break the teachers will have produced more activities for the children in their classes. Most of these resources will be posted on the tabs under Pupil / Parent resources: <u>https://www.ashlea.notts.sch.uk/parent-pupil-resources/</u> under your child's class name. There will also be more general information / resources under the parent / pupil section. More and more ideas are being posted daily and we are updating this page on a regularly basis. One of the national leaders in SEND has been searching / investigating all the free resources and has put together a comprehensive list. The link is on our web site as well as below:

http://www.thesensoryprojects.co.uk/covid19-resources

Your child's teacher will contact you once a week to catch up with you and your child and to see how you are all getting on. They will offer as much support as they can and if they cannot help, they will pass it on to the senior leaders to investigate further.



Ash Lea School, Owthorpe Road, Cotgrave Nottingham NG12 3PA Tel: 0115 989 2744 e-mail: reception@ashlea.notts.sch.uk



The OT / physio team have been in touch and have passed on their details; If you need to contact either physios or O.T.s they can be reached on 0300 123 3387. They are not in school but if we have any equipment you need please do get in touch with us.

Dr. Toni Wolff called last week and wanted school to give out a telephone number if you needed to contact the community Paediatrician Hub - 011584044848

With some good news; the outdoor learning area has almost been completed and has passed its inspection. They did not have time to finish the line makings before the closure, but it will be completed in due time.

I have enjoyed receiving pictures and news of what the children have been doing; we have been posting amazing pictures of rainbows on our Facebook page and will be starting a gallery page on our website soon so keeping sending them in.

I will keep you updated with all the latest information and I hope you can make the most of the Easter period.

Thank you for your continued support,

Dawn Wigley

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Head Teacher



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