



St. Edward's Church of England Academy

Westwood Road, Leek, ST13 8DN

Telephone: 01538 714740

Principal: Mr. T. Hutchinson

<http://stedwards.academy>

24th April 2020

Dear Pupils and Parents/Carers,

I hope I find you well at the end of week three of the Academy being closed. I am still excited to see all the work and activities that you are completing which keeps reaffirming what a talented bunch of parents, carers and pupils we have within our Academy community. Well done to you all!

To reduce the amount of information in this daily update, I am going to remove some of the more historical elements and limit the content to the most current points. All of the removed elements can still be viewed in the previous daily updates that can be found in the 'School Information Updates' section on the Academy website: [School Information Updates](#).

Reminder: Staying Safe Online: CEOP

As we are all needing to use the internet more and more to access communication, information and resources for every part of our lives at the moment, it is even more important that we are all aware of the dangers that being online and working online can pose. This is particularly important for your children and our pupils who are utilising the world wide web. CEOP and the Thinkuknow education programme are generating worksheets and guidance each week on a Tuesday to support everyone to stay safe online. Please use the link below or visit the 'School Information Updates' section on the Academy website:

[CEOP Thinkuknow Online Safety Guidance](#)

Reminder: Home School Games

Our local School Games Organiser has put together some physical activities that pupils in Y5 and Y6 can undertake each week and log their progress. This will then be reported back to us as a school and will compare us to other schools that are taking part. It would be fantastic if we could set our standards really high and demonstrate our physical prowess. The link below takes you to the Home School Games Target Challenge:

[Home School Games](#)

Reminder: Yoga App

In case you are ready for a change from Joe Wicks' daily PE sessions, there is a free yoga app available for you to download:

[Down Dog App for Schools](#)

Reminder: Minecraft Buildathon Competition

CITB has recently announced a monthly construction competition for school children aged between five and twelve years. The monthly challenge will be set in England, Scotland and Wales and will provide pupils with the opportunity to learn more about the different roles within the construction industry and the different types of material used during the build process.

The Minecraft Buildathon is being supported and run by Aspire 2Be and pupils who are interested should visit the Go Construct website to register:

[Minecraft Buildathon Competition](#)

The competition will take place across the following dates. Register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

| England & Scotland | Competition 1 | Competition 2 | Competition 3 |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Competition open | 27 th April | 18 th May | 22 nd June |
| Competition close | 1 st May | 22 nd May | 26 th June |
| Winner announced | 6 th May | 27 th May | 1 st July |

Reminder: New learning resources for all

As the lock down situation continues and develops, further resources and support are being developed to assist in a range of ways. For you as parents/carers and pupils, the new **Oak National Academy** and **BBC Bitesize Daily** are providing excellent teaching aids that are accessible to all. BBC Bitesize is available via the 'Red Button' on your television as well as online.

<https://www.thenational.academy/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>

I have asked teachers to make reference to these resources where possible and applicable on the Go4Schools website by linking the resources to the tasks the Academy is setting for our pupils. However, if you are struggling to access Academy resources, please feel free to utilise these documents, quizzes, videos and activities. They are arranged age range and subject although they do not currently cover the entire curriculum, unlike the work set by the Academy.

Reminder: Support – Survive Together: Leek

The Survive Together: Leek project has been established to provide support to a range of people in Leek, Cheddleton and the surrounding areas.

Firstly, Survive Together: Leek is looking for volunteers to assist them in a range of ways. If you are interested in providing support, you can contact them via email on volunteer@survive-together.org.uk.

Secondly, to request support or to make a referral for someone who needs support at the current time, please phone 0345 605 3010 or 01538 398378.

The Survive Together: Leek flyer has been attached at the end of this letter. All details can also be found on the Survive Together: Leek Facebook page.

Reminder: Parental guidance with writing

To aid parents and carers with some of the techniques and key elements of writing, Mr Renshaw has kindly put together an excellent pack that explains what is required. This pack can be found in the 'School Information Updates' section on the Academy website at the link below:

[English Writing Support Pack](#)

Reminder: Rights Respecting School

As a Rights Respecting School, we regularly reflect on different articles from the UN Convention of Rights for the Child. During the current period, the UN are releasing an 'Article of the Week' for you to examine and discuss the significance of on your lives. This week's article is Article 24: Health Care, which I am sure you will agree is a very apt focus for us all to consider: [Unicef: Rights Respecting Schools - Article of the Week](#).

Reminder: Mental health and well-being

At the current time more than ever, ensuring that we look after our personal mental health and that of those we care about is paramount. Below are a range of resources, websites and apps that you can access and that provide links to further mental health and well-being materials.

- <https://www.headspace.com/>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-51873799>
- <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/for-children-and-young-people/>
- <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-at-home-tips/>
- <https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/supporting-your-child-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

Reminder: Safeguarding

Keeping our pupils and their families safe is our most important job.

If you have any concerns, please call First Response on 0800 131 3126 or the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000 or Childline on 0800 1111. If you need to contact us, please do so via the Contacts link on the Academy website.

There is a lot of support available to help keep your child safe online. Below are some useful links to help parents and carers:

- Think You Know: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> (advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online)
- Internet Matters: <https://www.internetmatters.org/> (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- Parent Info: <https://parentinfo.org/> (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- LGfL: <https://www.lgfl.net/online-safety/> (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- Net Aware: <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/> (support for parents and carers from the NSPCC)

Reminder: FAQs (frequently asked questions)

Question: Can work be set for completion by pupils hour by hour?

Answer: *We are setting work to provide tasks for all pupils. When pupils are in school, they would not be working for the entire day so please keep this in mind. Spending two to four hours working with breaks is a suitable amount of time, considering that in school there would be group activities, sports, music and creative tasks to break up individual written work.*

Setting tasks that are specified to one hour is difficult when providing for class groups remotely. Pupils should work on tasks as set, but if this takes several sessions that is not an issue. The work set is also there to support pupils. If tasks are leading to pupils feeling anxious or spending excessive time periods to complete a task, then this is not our expectation. If pupils have tried their best and completed a task to the best of their ability, then we expect nothing more than this as this is in line with our 10:10 vision!

Question: Can the Academy set up Zoom sessions and/or video lessons?

Answer *The Academy is not going to utilise Zoom with pupils due to the potential safeguarding concerns and occurrences of 'Zoom Bombing'. This has led to a blanket ban on Zoom by several national education systems abroad.*

The new Oak National Academy resources and BBC Bitesize resources I have highlighted in this letter provide video lessons and linked resources that are secure and are in a format accessible to all.

Question: What is the current situation concerning refunds for the Y7 French trip?

Answer: *We are currently in communication with our insurers and the travel company with regard to arrangements surrounding this trip. The Academy has already paid for this trip in full and therefore all funds are held by the travel company.*

The Academy is far from happy with this situation and wants to provide the best outcome for parents. However, we also wanted to provide parents with the options that have been presented to us at the current time. The Academy will continue to push for further information on this matter and we will update you as soon as we know more. We apologise for any concern this is causing.

Reminder: Additional web resources that may be helpful to parents/carers

BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>

Oak National Academy: <https://www.thenational.academy/>

National Geographic Kids Discover: <https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/category/discover/>

Jodrell Bank Beyond the Rainbow: <https://www.jodrellbank.net/beyond-the-rainbow-multiwavelength-astronomy>

The Copley Prize 2020 is a competition for pupils up to the age of 11 to enter a drawing or painting inspired by L S Lowry: <https://thelowryblog.com/2020/04/08/the-copley-prize-2020/>

Sport England 'Stay In, Work Out' – tips, advice and guidance on how to keep or get active in or around your home: <https://www.sportengland.org/stayinworkout>

Harry Potter at Home (activities for first-time readers and those already familiar with the Harry Potter books): <https://www.wizardingworld.com/collections/harry-potter-at-home>

Andrew Lloyd Webber is live streaming some of his musicals on YouTube on Friday evenings: <https://www.youtube.com/theshowsmustgoon>

The National Theatre are releasing live streams of some of their most popular plays on YouTube on Thursday evenings: search for 'National Theatre' on <https://www.youtube.com/>

Rosetta Stone (language learning at home – free of charge access for school children for three months): <https://www.rosettastone.co.uk/lp/freeforkids/>

<https://www.thebodycoach.com/blog/pe-with-joe-1254.html>

Many of you have already been taking part in PE with Joe Wicks at 9am on weekdays and have let us know how much you are enjoying it. If you haven't yet tried PE with Joe Wicks, why not give it a go tomorrow morning?

Elementari (pupils write their own stories then create interactive animations): <https://www.elementari.io/>

<https://radioblogging.net>

This is a radio broadcast on the internet with a live lesson by English teachers at 9.30am to inspire writers. Click on the orange button on the Radio Blogging website to listen. Pupils need to listen live to access the lesson - set yourself a reminder for 9.25am so that you don't miss out!

Reading recommendations by age group: <https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/>

Audio books (free during school closure): <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

Twinkl Home Learning Hub: <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/home-learning-hub>

The Hidden Worlds of the National Parks: <https://artsandculture.withgoogle.com/en-us/>

Chester Zoo Learning Resources: <https://www.chesterzoo.org/schools/resources/>

Scouts – The Great Indoors (indoor activity ideas): <https://www.scouts.org.uk/the-great-indoors>

The World of David Walliams: <https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevenses/>

JCB – Build Your Own Hydradig: https://www.jcb.com/origin2017/~/_asset/14/46105

Active History: www.activehistory.co.uk (Username: stedwards / Password: junior21)

God bless,



Mr T Hutchinson
Principal



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you are able to leave the house and go shopping then we **NEED YOU!**

The vulnerable, elderly and isolated in our community **NEED YOU!**

If you have the time and are well enough to do so, then please, email your details to:

volunteer@survivetgether.uk

To start helping in your community today and building for a better tomorrow.



[/SurviveTogetherUK](https://www.facebook.com/SurviveTogetherUK) [/survivetgetheruk](https://www.instagram.com/survivetgetheruk)

Survive Together Leek

Hi my name is _____

I am a volunteer for the Survive Together project in Leek & Cheddleton to help anyone in my local area that might need it during these worrying times.

Please contact me if you need:

- Shopping Collected A Friendly Phone Call Urgent Supplies

You can call me or text me on _____

You can also get support from the project by calling Staffordshire Moorlands District Council on **0345 6053010**, and help & advice from the Haregate Community Centre on **01538 398378**.

Find us on online at: survivetgether.uk
Printed & Delivered by Survive Together



Providing COVID-19 Community Support
in Leek, Cheddleton & Surrounding Areas

Need help? Call our SMDC helpline

0345 6053010

www.survivetgether.uk [/SurviveTogetherUK](https://www.facebook.com/SurviveTogetherUK) [/survivetgetheruk](https://www.instagram.com/survivetgetheruk)



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