



Great Gaddesden C of E (VA) Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs S.M. Wickens

Great Gaddesden C of E Primary School
Church Meadow
Hemel Hempstead
Herts

Friday, 3rd April, 2020

Email: admin@greatgaddesden.hert.sch.uk

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Dear Parents,

It seems very strange to be writing to you at the close of a school term that ended so suddenly. The children are to be congratulated on the way that they coped with all the changes that took place at school, before we had to close. Routines were adapted to include regular handwashing, different lunch arrangements and Collective Worship taking place in classrooms. The children took all these necessary changes in their stride and were fabulous. In school, we addressed these times of uncertainty through PSHE discussions and informal conversations, at an age appropriate level.

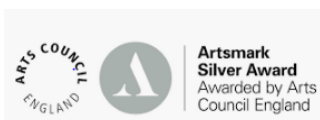
Many thanks to the families who have been making use of the class email addresses, sharing work and keeping in touch with the teachers. Next term, please encourage the children to keep in regular contact with their class teachers using this account. The teachers would love to hear how the children are getting on and answer any questions about the work that has been set.

At the beginning of the summer term (Monday, 20th April, 2020), new home learning will be shared on the class page of the website on a weekly basis. There are many new home learning platforms that are being developed and staff will keep the children updated about these.

The BBC announced this morning that at the beginning of next term, they will be publishing daily online lessons using BBC Bitesize, which will include a new TV learning channel, podcasts and educational videos on iPlayer. It would be great if the children could make use of these additional resources if possible.

Local schools have been contacted by Andrea Hone on behalf of Watford General Hospital, asking for children in the area to write letters of thanks to the nurses and medical staff at the Hospital. Watford Football Club are also involved and have offered to make a display of all the letters received.

'Treat others exactly as you would like them to treat you'. (Luke 6:31)



The Chief Executive of Watford Hospital Trust, St Albans Hospital and Hemel Hempstead Hospital are all in support of this.

It would be wonderful if Great Gaddesden pupils could participate in this gesture to show gratitude to those who are putting themselves at risk for the benefit of others.

The request is as follows :- *'no more than a side of A4 and a message of inspiration and thanks to keep the staff going as they care for those that are very sick'*. If your child/ren would like to participate, please send all letters by email to your class teachers using the class email addresses.

Finally, I would like to thank you for the support that you have shown to the school during this difficult and uncertain time and take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and healthy Easter. Please continue to follow the government guidance on how to protect ourselves and support the NHS.

I look forward to all being back together as a school community as soon as possible, and in the interim, however long it may be, please take care of yourselves and your families.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S.M.Wickens
Headteacher

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