

THE ST CHARLES' COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Friday 1st May 2020

"Bring Forth Christ"



Determination

Friendship

Good Manners

Respect

Responsibility

UP AND ACTIVE



You have certainly all been 'up and active' this week. It has been fantastic watching all your videos sent in and using them in the daily workout videos. Thank you to everybody who has contributed videos and to all the staff and children in school this week who have helped in the creation of these. The videos look to have been useful to you at home as they have been viewed over 300 times. They are stored on our school's new YouTube channel and so you can access them whenever you want through our Facebook page or by clicking on this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkxsZAp9As15RhIPvvEQH6w>

If you subscribe to our channel, you'll be notified as soon as new content is uploaded.

VE DAY

Our theme for next week links to the 75th anniversary of VE Day. VE Day celebrates the formal acceptance by the Allies of World War II of Nazi Germany's unconditional surrender of its armed forces on the 8th May 1945 signalling the end of the war.

Teachers at school have been working hard behind the scenes creating a list of activities for you to take part in to help us celebrate this. These can be found at the end of the newsletter and in the Covid-19 section of our new school website.



Please keep sharing your pictures and videos from home. To make it easier sharing videos, a 'Video Upload' tab can be found within the Covid-19 section of our website.

New School Website

Our new school website is up and running. The Covid-19 section is developing over time and evolving to the needs of our school community at this time. New additions this week include:

- Covid-19 Gallery – this section is in the process of being populated with all your pictures sent in from home each week. Keep sending them in.
- Extra Work Ideas/PE ideas – all the different work ideas and PE resources we have found or been sent can be located here.
- Financial Support – links to support which might be of use to parents at this time.
- Mental Well Being – information you can access to support your mental health.
- Work Packs – complete this form to receive a paper copy of the most recent pack of work.
- Weekly Themes – a list of activities which link to this week's theme.
- Video Upload – a quick and easy way to upload your picture and videos from home.
- Covid-19 Emergency Contact (homepage) – if you need to get in touch with school urgently and we're not in, complete this form and we'll give you a ring as soon as possible.

PARENTAL SURVEY

Many thanks to those parents who took the time to complete the survey which was sent out last week. Your support for everything we are doing in school during this time has been fantastic.

Some of the key things to take from the survey is that:

- The work sent home has been useful and appropriate;
- You know where to access help in supporting your child with their work;
- The themed week approach will be useful
- You are happy with the level of communication from school.

A few things to note:

- Some parents didn't think that they were able to adequately support their child with the work sent home. Where this is the case, please make sure you message your child's class teacher through Dojo, send a message to the school office account or email: remotelearning@st-charles.lancs.sch.uk and we will make sure that we do everything we can to support you at home.
- 20% of parents didn't feel there was enough work to support their child. I have added an 'Extra work' section to our school website with links to external sites which might be useful to parents. Hopefully the new weekly themed approach will help parents also.

Towards the end of the survey, there were a couple of open questions for parents to comment on. The first was around how school could support parents more. The majority of parents were incredibly supportive and didn't feel school could support parents more. There were also some valid points from some parents which I've addressed below:

- **Printed copies of work** – this has always been offered. Within the Covid-19 section of the school website, there is a form where you can request work packs. These packs will be printed every Monday and distributed Monday night/Tuesday morning.
- **List of the curriculum the children would have been studying and learning about at school day by day/what should the children know/be able to do by the end of the year.** Unfortunately this isn't appropriate to share as not all children will be able to cover the work set which will mean that when we do return, all the children will be at different points in their learning. Our aim at the minute is to support parents in maintaining where their child was working at when school closed and then we will put things in place to accelerate their learning when school returns.
- **Moral support/say it's ok to not do the work and have a day off.** This has been a message I've tried to convey from early on. As I've said previously, these times are difficult enough and we don't want to add to stress levels by insisting work is completed. Do what you can.
- **Less work – haven't done half of what has been sent home.** See above. That's fine. You do what you can and don't worry if you don't get it done.

Finally, the last section was around things other parents have used which might be useful to you (I'll add this list and more suggestions to the school website (Covid-19 > Extra Work).

- The Maths Factor with Carol Vorderman
- Maddie Moate's Lets Go Live Science
- White Rose Maths
- Teach it Primary
- Stop Motion App
- Joe Wicks Pe
- Phonics Play
- Cosmic Yoga
- Twinkl
- Topmarks for maths games
- Ruth Miskin Phonics
- Greenbox First Aid course
- Horrible Histories

Please do keep messaging and keeping in touch with school. Stay safe.



OUR THEME FOR THIS WEEK IS:
VE DAY – 75 YEARS
HERE ARE SOME ACTIVITY IDEAS

Have a go at as many of these activities as you can! Worksheets to support this work will be posted in the Covid-19 section ahead of Monday.

MONDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find out what the union flag represents for example the different colours and crosses. Draw it and label what all the different parts represent. Make your own union flag Watch an interview with Richard Croasdale, a volunteer at Blackburn Museum. He was five years old at the start of the war. He describes rationing, welcoming evacuees and the games they used to play at school. In the last five minutes he describes VE Day in Blackburn. [Smallstories.blackburn.ac.uk/interview-with-richard-croasdale] What questions would you like to ask someone who was a child during the war? Why don't you make a card for an older person at Sherwood House Nursing Home in Rishton and include some questions. Experience what it would be like to be in the trenches or air raid shelter before VE day. Get under a table and make it dark. Create the atmosphere with air raid sirens and shooting and explosions.
TUESDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and create your own air raid shelter model using junk modelling materials from the recycling bin. Create some artwork of the Blitz - black silhouettes of buildings and the skyline lit up in orange and red fire and smoke. Visit this website and learn some classic WW2 songs. Perhaps you could dress up, make some flags and put on a show for your family? https://www.carradinescockneysingalong.co.uk/ve-day Learn the National Anthem of Great Britain and perform it. Can you send in a video? Write a letter to your family describing what it is like to be in the trenches or air raid shelter describe the noise and emotions you have. Draw a picture of what you imagine it looked like in the trenches or air raid shelter.
WEDNESDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listen to Winston Churchill deliver his VE Day speech (https://winstonchurchill.org/resources/speeches/1941-1945-war-leader/to-v-e-crowds/) Can you create your own version of this speech? Record and send it in to school. Draw or colour a picture of people celebrating VE day (colouring pages attached) Look at the photographs on the Imperial War Museum website which show VE Day. Can you imagine being in a crowd that big? Write a diary entry as if you were there that day. Write a vintage telegram using the Onward Homes guide for display and exhibition in Eachill Gardens. Send it into school or drop off there on your daily walk. KS2 children - Use the resources on this website to create a project all about VE day. You can examine historical sources, make comparisons and even have a walk to the War Memorial as part of your daily exercise. https://www.mrtdoeshistory.com/75th-anniversary-ve-day
THURSDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create some VE day bunting Plan your own VE Day party using the helpful guides and create some posters for it. Research the royal family at the time. Who was on the throne? Can you create a family tree? Many celebrated on VE Day with dancing – why don't you learn the Lindy Hop or make up a similar dance with lots of joy! Due to rationing during the war, people sometimes made 'trick food' for example, using half a tinned apricot or peach for a fried egg! Can you draw and label a plate of 'trick food'?
FRIDAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold your VE day celebration tea party. You could make sandwiches, scones and cakes. Take some photos of you and your family enjoying it! Write out a menu for a VE day celebration tea party Make a Victoria Sponge cake fit for a VE day celebration! Can you take some photos or a video of you making it?

ALL THE WORKSHEETS AND TEMPLATES YOU NEED FOR THESE ACTIVITES CAN BE LOCATED BY CLICKING ON THE BUTTON BELOW.

Worksheets