



Oare Church of England Primary School

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NEWSLETTER

22/05/2020



A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees. The greatest work that kindness does to others is that it makes them kind themselves.”

Amelia Earhart

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we have reached the end of Term 5 and I once again feel moved to celebrate the incredible work that the children of Oare have been sharing with us throughout the term. A huge recognition to parents too who clearly have been working so hard too. Thank you for your support.

I feel it important that we mark the passing of terms during this time. Not just for staff and parents, but most importantly for the children. Nobody can pretend that this situation is easy and there is no one answer for how to deal with the scenario that you find yourself in. The entire staff of Oare really do all understand, so please ask if we can help in any way. Sometimes, just talking makes all the difference.

The staff are totally committed to supporting the children of Oare. We are revising our home learning support as time goes on and the use of Seesaw is evolving. A letter will be coming out after half term regarding this and how we intend to continue to support home learning as well as work with the increased numbers of children who will be coming into school.

We are not setting work over half term, but obviously Seesaw remains a tool for children to use to record what they are doing if it helps to provide a routine for your family.

Please note that the first two days back after half term (1st and 2nd June) have been set as training days for the staff in order that they are fully trained and ready to welcome more children back. School will be closed to **all** pupils on these days. The learning grid for that week will therefore only be for three days but will be sent out on Monday 1st June for you to use that week as you see fit.

There will be further information regarding the final plans for the reopening of school to more pupils in the next few days. We are still waiting to confirm final numbers of pupils and would ask if you haven't yet responded to please do so to letters@oare.excalibur.org.uk

I wish you all well for a positive half term filled with sunshine and hope towards this situation changing for the better soon for all.

Kind regards,

Gudrun Osborn, Principal

Wiltshire Council Primary Newsletter

Please click [HERE](#) to read this week's edition.

Birthday Congratulations this week to:

Lacey-May

and also to Daniel who will be celebrating his birthday over half term.



Free School Meals

Families entitled to free school meals are receiving electronic vouchers. If your circumstances have changed and you think you may now be entitled to free school meals, we would encourage you to apply to Wiltshire Council:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-free-school-meals>

SEESAW TIP OF THE WEEK

Uploading files to Seesaw

Did you know you can upload a piece of work typed in word or produced in powerpoint or publisher, or even on pages on an iPad? If your child likes to type their work sometimes, if you PDF their work once complete, it can then be uploaded as file to Seesaw.

Teachers can then mark and edit, just as they can with any photo that is uploaded.

14 WAYS TO BE KIND ONLINE

Showing kindness online can mean so much to someone else. It is a choice we can all make that helps others, puts people's needs before our own and which can generate feelings of empathy and compassion. Small gestures can have a large impact and often one act of kindness can lead to more, making the world a happier and more positive place. That's why we've created this guide to suggest a few simple 'acts of kindness online' that can benefit people's mental health, support their wellbeing and encourage a more positive approach to engaging online.



1. BE POSITIVE

Post about things that make you happy and that you're thankful for. It could brighten up someone else's day.



Sometimes a friend or family member might post a question online or ask for help with something they can't do themselves. If you know the answer or are able to offer help, provide support and send a response. Something that may be easy for you might be difficult for someone else.



If somebody you know has done something good or shown kindness themselves, thank them for it. It costs nothing and showing them that you appreciate it means so much.

4. SHARE FUNNY VIDEOS OR IMAGES WITH FRIENDS & FAMILY

We often come across funny videos or images online that make us laugh and then we move on. If you found it funny, your friends and family might too. It could help someone smile who may be having a bad day.



5. LIKE, LOVE & CELEBRATE

If somebody posts something that you like on social media, like it, love it or celebrate it! It's a small gesture but could mean a lot.

6. VIDEO CALL YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY

It can be easy to be consumed by daily routine. Using apps like Zoom, FaceTime or WhatsApp are great for connecting with others far away and shows you're thinking of them even though you can't physically meet them in person.



7. TELL SOMEONE YOU'RE THINKING OF THEM

We can't always tell how people are feeling online and just dropping somebody a message to ask if they're ok or that you're thinking of them could literally make their day.

8. SHARE POSITIVE POSTS

If you see something online that inspires you, share it with people you know. An inspirational quote, a beautiful photo or a motivational video can lift spirits, improve self-esteem and help make people feel better about themselves.



9. HOST AN ONLINE QUIZ

Video conferencing apps are a great way to get friends and family together. If you know someone who is feeling lonely, host an online quiz and invite them to join in. It could really cheer them up.



10. THINK BEFORE YOU COMMENT

Sometimes thinking before you act can be just as significant as acting in the first place. Showing thought before you comment could stop you posting something hurtful, offensive or negative. It's always better to post positively or post nothing at all.



11. BE COMPASSIONATE & UNDERSTANDING

Being empathetic towards others and their situation is often an act of kindness and selflessness that gets overlooked. If you notice someone who is upset, drop them a message and offer to listen.



12. CONNECT FRIENDS & FAMILY WITH SIMILAR INTERESTS

You may know two people amongst your friends and family who you trust and know well who have similar interests and likes. Introducing them can be a great way for them to make new friends but remember to always ask their permission first.



13. RECOMMEND SOMETHING YOU ENJOY DOING TO OTHERS

If you enjoy doing something online, such as playing a game, or if you've found a great learning resource, share it with others. Even if you've watched a good film, letting others know can be an act of generosity that brings them excitement or pleasure at a time when they might need it the most.



14. PRAISE OTHERS FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

Sometimes your friends or family might post something online that they're proud to have done. It might be an exam they've passed, learning a new skill or just completing a task. Either way, it's always kind to recognise hard work and effort through praise and celebration.



Meet our expert

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.

