

St Mary & St Paul's

CE Primary School

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Monday 11th May 2020

Dear Parent's and Carers,

I just wanted to write to you, as over the last few weeks, a number of you have started to suggest that you are worried your child is starting to fall behind. We completely understand your anxiety but it is important that we take the most out of each and every situation and after some reading around this idea we discovered this small article that we hope may bring some comfort to you (on the second page).

While we encourage you to do bits of home learning, it isn't the end of the world if you don't get through it today. Spending time with your child, talking with them and playing with them will help add to them as people in the future. Read the article below, be proud of what you are doing, this isn't easy on anyone. When we return to school, we will embark on support your child's mental health first as learning is only possible when we are in the right frame of mind.

Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do. We are with you all the way and if you need any help or support, you know where we are.

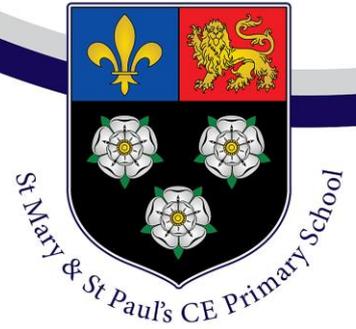
Stay safe and we look forward to continuing working closely with you over the coming weeks and months.

Best wishes

Mr Parks

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Falling Behind?

Many people are concerned about students falling behind because of this. Yes, they may fall behind when it comes to classroom education...but fall behind who ?

BUT WHAT IF

What if instead of falling "behind", this group of kids are **ADVANCED** because of this? Hear me out.

What if they have more empathy, they enjoy family connection, they can be more creative and entertain themselves, they love to read, they love to express themselves in writing.

What if they enjoy the simple things, like their own garden and sitting near a window in the quiet.

What if they notice the birds and the dates the different flowers emerge, and the calming renewal of a gentle rain shower?

What if this generation are the ones to learn to cook, organize their space, do their laundry, and keep a well run home?

What if they learn to ride a bike, play a board game, do simple crafts, learn to bake, climb a tree, play without a screen?

What if they learn to Understand the value of money, what's important and to live with less?

What if they learn to plan shopping trips and meals at home.

What if they learn the value of eating together as a family and finding the good to share in the small delights of the everyday?

What if they learn to just be, to be more resilient, to be content ?

What if they are the ones to place great value on our teachers and educational professionals, librarians, public servants and the previously invisible essential support workers like truck drivers, grocers, logistics, and health care workers and their supporting staff, just to name a few of the millions taking care of us right now while we are sheltered in place?

What if among these children, a great leader emerges who had the benefit of a slower pace and a simpler life to truly learn what really matters in this life?

What if they are **AHEAD?**

