



Lisle Marsden Church of England Primary Academy

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2nd April 2020

Easter Break – Information for Parents and Carers

Dear Parents and Carers

It's good to see that most of you are now connected to our Lisle Marsden Class Dojo Community pages. Apologies to those of you have struggled to connect, hopefully this will all be resolved by Friday. The school community platform and Portfolio Pages are evolving, and our staff are learning new ways in which to communicate with you and set activities, tasks and challenges for the children to enjoy at home. Please encourage your child to do as much as they can, but don't feel under pressure to try to replicate a normal school day for them, as we understand that everyone is under pressure, and you will all have many things to balance and deal with in these unprecedented circumstances.

On Tuesday, I spent my first day of these new arrangements working from home, connected to the staff at school (and those working from home) through the new 'virtual world' we now rely on; trying to address a number of priorities - whilst looking after my 10- year old boy who needed lots of help, encouragement as well as some 'motivation' to complete his home schooling poetry task! Welcome to your world! Staff at school understand how you feel, so do the best you can.

Over the last two-weeks, lots have had to change in school, we have had to establish many new systems and work in ways never previously considered, as well as put things in place to enable children to access learning at home; all our staff team have worked incredibly hard to adapt to this, as well as to provide support and education for the families of critical key workers in these very stressful circumstances. I know you will join me in thanking all of them.

It's almost the end of this school term, for some of you the days will seem to have blurred somewhat - weekends, holidays and regular days may feel like they are the same. From 3rd April it would have been and still will be our Easter break. We will still be open during this time to support a small number of critical key worker families who require essential childcare – this service which supports families between 7.45am -6.00pm each day will continue in the Lisle

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Marsden Childcare Center and will be staffed by our fantastic teachers and excellent LMC Childcare staff. For the very large majority of staff, I have instructed them to have essential rest and recuperation time within the traditional school closure period. It won't be a holiday for you or them, but it's important they have time for their families and time for themselves. For this reason, contact through DoJo during the school break will be dictated by teachers who let you know if they are available, and if so when. School will be closed during this period but we will still be contactable through the office@lma.nelcmail.co.uk email address as normal. We still want to see what the children have been up to, and the home school work packs of activities together with Class Portfolio learning challenges should help you to keep the children busy, please continue to post things on DoJo, though you may not receive feedback and comments during this time; alternatively, you may also wish to have a break from 'home schooling' yourselves during the two-week period as is normal in the school holidays.

For those of you **eligible for Free School Meals**, the 5 day hampers **can still be collected from the school kitchen on Tuesday 7th April and again on Wednesday 15th April (normally Tuesday)**. I hope all of you who are eligible for this service, will take the opportunity to get outside, walk as a family in the fresh spring air to school and collect your hamper.

Please take care, stay safe, and we will hopefully see you all very soon.

Yours Sincerely

Dan Kinsey
Headteacher