

Parents/Carers

For nearly 4 weeks now, we have delivered remote education whilst schools have been closed to the majority of pupils. We recognize that this is an extremely challenging time and parents may have questions about remote learning so a set of frequently asked questions have been answered to help parents. This can be found on the website but a copy will also be sent to parents.

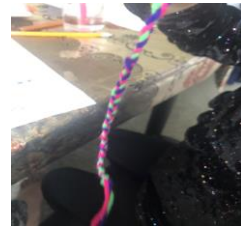
Remote Learning

Teachers are working hard to plan meaningful and ambitious work to keep children interested and motivated as well as delivering the range of subjects, as they would have if the children were in school. The government have set guidelines of the time children should be engaged in their learning on a daily basis. As a minimum, it is 3 hours for Key Stage 1 pupils and 4 hours for Key Stage 2 pupils. This will be through live teaching, recorded sessions and uploaded tasks with instructions. There will also be time planned into the day for children to read, practice basic skills such as spelling, handwriting and times tables.

Here are just a few pieces of the amazing work we have been receiving.

Reception

In school some children have been decorating their own hats to fit in with the story 'Room on the Broom'



Year 1

Here is Wiktoria making pancakes after reading and writing about the Runaway Pancake.



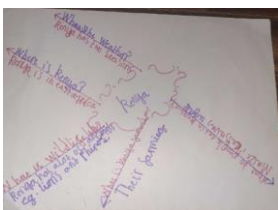
Maya- sorting materials into hard and soft. Reinforcing vocabulary and the skill of sorting for Science.

Tayba- Kandinsky shape picture. Using shape, line and colour to create effects.



Excellent- creating textures in a seascape using materials from around the house.

Year 2



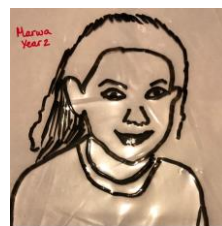
Prince's English/topic work about Kenya



Jasmine's art work



Myra's lovely work



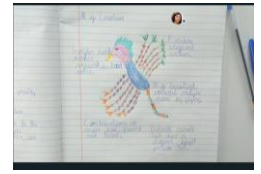
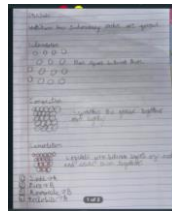
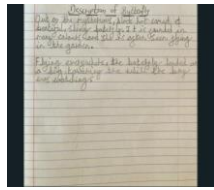
Marwa's art work



Justyna's art work

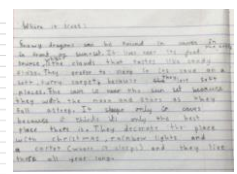
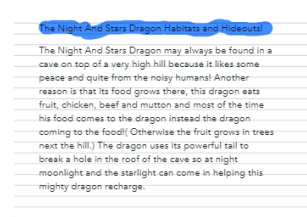
Year 3

Some lovely pieces of writing from the children in year 3



Year 4

Year 4 have been writing about dragons and learning about types of teeth and how we look after them, so we made posters to explain how to care for our teeth.



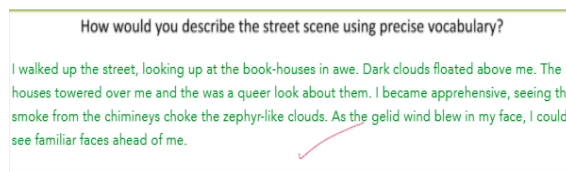
Year 5

Here are a few pieces of beautiful work from some of our year 5's



Year 6

Here's a lovely piece of writing from Abdullah and Maya masks from Hanisk and Marcel.



Ready to Learn – Timetables

Many children are now following the timetable and completing the tasks for the day. We are aware that supporting children at home can be a challenge but we thank parents for their continued efforts. You're doing a great job! Please get in touch if you need any help, advice or support with the remote learning. We are not sure when children will be allowed to all return to school therefore we need to make sure the children get into good learning habits with remote learning. We ask that parents follow the same routines as they would if children were coming in to school by making sure children get a good night's sleep and are dressed and ready for their first session. Please could you ensure your child's camera is on and the expectations for live lessons are followed. This will also be sent out again.



Damilola Year 5

An alternative ending for Rumpelstiltskin.

He gasped aloud and his face went scarlet with rage. He breathed heavily and glared furiously at the young girl in front of him. "WHERE IS MY GOLD?!" HE BELCHED.

Calmly, she muttered, "I did not make any and I will not make any until you listen to me. This gold will make you neither happy nor joyful. This is not how a KING should behave and I will not allow it!"

"Watch your tongue when you are speaking to me missie!"

He felt so angry that his head felt like it was going to burst into a million pieces. No sooner had he ordered for her to die, than the soldiers rushed in but they just stood there.

"WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? KILL HER!"

"The young lady is correct, making more gold will not make you happier. Take a look outside, do you think anybody likes you for the monster that you have turned into?"

He stomped off in such a furious rage that he gave up being a king. He ran off in such a rampage.

If he had come back after all this time, then nobody had heard of him. When she told her parents all that had happened, they believed her instantly. Meredith and Rumpelstiltskin had been worried sick, and her face was pale with tears.

They hugged each other gratefully. The had retired and never wanted to see the throne again.

"What is the point of being a king if you do not get exactly what you want?"

Early next morning, Rumpelstiltskin had found out that he was going to be the King. He was so surprised that he ended up stammering about what an honour it would be to be King.

They lived happily ever after. But what happened to the king till remains a mystery to all of us...

KS1 Playground

Work has begun on our KS1 playground. We will also be having a new trim trail for KS2 in addition to the outdoor gym that was installed last year. The KS2 playground will be improved further next by adding interactive game markings to encourage the children to be more active at playtimes.



Festival of Science and Curiosity

Mon 8 – Weds 17 February
Online



Despite every challenge, the Nottingham Festival of Science and Curiosity is back this February with a packed programme of events and activities accessible for all the family.

This week-long festival takes Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths out of the lab and into everyday lives.

There will be live demonstrations, and activities to take part in at home from quizzes, to wordsearches and colouring through to experiments like Ice and Spaghetti Composites where mixing two materials together can produce the best of both worlds!

Or, why not go on a Back Garden Scavenger Hunt? Can you find all the objects on the list in your back garden, or in your local park?

There is also a festival magazine! articles, puzzles, activities and experiments to try out at home, there's something for the whole family.

For more information please follow the link [Nottingham Festival of Science and Curiosity – Celebrating Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths \(nottsfosac.co.uk\)](http://nottsfosac.co.uk)

Showbie – Live Lessons

This time we have introduced Showbie, which allows teachers to deliver live lessons and communicate directly with the class. Feedback from parents has been very positive so far. This online teaching tool was only bought when school closed a few weeks ago but teachers have worked hard to set it up and learn how to use it. We believe that live teaching is the next best way to teach children if they cannot come in to school. This is also to lessen the burden on parents as it means that the teachers will be doing all the teaching and explaining the tasks. However, few schools are delivering as many live lessons as Radford because they do not have the technology or the amount of teacher time it takes during the day. In between the live teaching sessions, teachers are teaching in class and responding to questions and feeding back on work from the tasks that children have sent back. Teachers will always plan the next session according to what each child has learnt previously and the tasks they have completed however, they may not send every piece of work back marked on the day it is completed particularly if the work is sent back after school hours. I am sure you will appreciate the demand on teachers of marking and feeding back 30 pieces of work for each task as well as responding to questions from parents and children. This, alongside teaching during the day can be difficult so we would ask for your patience if waiting for work to be returned or a response to a message. Teachers will try their best to respond to messages on the day if they are sent during school hours.



Internet Safety

Showbie also has a facility where children can chat to each other, which has been a positive way for them to communicate with their friends. However, some of the older children in particular have not been using it appropriately and there have been some inappropriate messages written by the children on the chat. I have spoken to the children about this but would appreciate parents also reminding children that they should behave as we would expect them to in school.

We have loaned laptops to some families. We hope to get some more and pass on to the next group of families in greatest need. These laptops should only be used by children who attend Radford and only for their work. These laptops are covered by the IT filtering system which will capture any inappropriate use of the laptop e.g. if a word has been typed (does not have to be sent but will be picked up even if the word is deleted) or the search engine used in an unacceptable way. Although children will not be aware school will receive an alert, which will identify which laptop has been used and a screenshot of what was picked up. This is to safeguard the children and quickly identify any concerns. We ask that parents monitor their child's use on their laptop and remind them that it is being monitored by school.

Parents please note that these laptops are on loan and should be returned as soon as school opens or when asked to return the equipment by a member of staff. Please ensure your child takes care of the laptop as the agreement has been signed that they will cover the cost of repairs should the laptop be damaged at home.



Free School Meals

Families entitled to free school meals will now be receiving food vouchers, you **will** be getting these to cover the February half term. We may be able to support with vouchers or food parcels for some families who are in need of help but do not qualify for free school meals. Please contact the school office or speak to your child's class teacher.



Well Done and Thank you

Thank you for everything you are doing. Despite the challenges there is some great work being sent back and photos showing children really enjoying the practical activities. These are challenging times but I am sure that if we continue to communicate we can work together and resolve some of the difficulties that families are facing. Please get in touch if you need any help or advice. If school cannot help, we will direct you to someone who can.

Parent information

Vacancy for a Parent Governor

Do you want to make a difference in your child's school, and develop your own professional skills?
By volunteering as a school Governor, you can do both.

You can help your child's school with:

- **its strategy**
- **the analysis of the school's performance**
- **the management of the school's budget**
- **the creation of strategic visions**

You need to have a desire to make a difference plus time, energy and commitment, the ability to work as part of a team and, most importantly, an interest in your child's future. Anyone over the age of 18 can be a governor.

Governor training is important and is provided through L.E.A.D. All Governor appointments are subject to DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks. Parent Governors are elected by other parents and carers of pupils.

Please contact the school office directly for an Expression of Interest form.

Taking care of your own wellbeing

In order to help your children to feel safe and manage any of their anxieties, the first step is to take care of your own wellbeing. Whether it's ensuring you have some time to relax or asking others for help when you need it, you must take care of yourself. The following organisations offer support:

<https://www.family-action.org.uk>

<https://www.mind.org.uk>

<https://www.familylives.org.uk>

Taking care of your children's wellbeing

During this difficult time, it is important that we help our children recognise and talk about the anxieties they may be having about the current situation. Sharing their concerns with a calm and supportive adult will help them and hopefully reduce their feelings of anxiety. This can be done by creating a safe space in which our children feel they can talk about any worries and ask questions, supporting communication with family and friends, and setting up positive routines, including time for play and exercise. You can also try doing the daily wellbeing activity (https://www.elsa-support.co.uk/wellbeing-week-daily-resources/?fbclid=IwAR0uVdDVh1zAbMFGH_-B7_OaWEhpq2qL2wEC_TPUCOL8I36I4Y0iY6gVnfs). The links below offer further advice and support.

www.keep-your-head.com

www.kooth.com

www.youngminds.org.uk

<https://www.who.int>