



## INSET DAY MONDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

We have been asked to clarify if the originally scheduled INSET day for Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June is still going ahead. In light of the current situation this will not go ahead and is therefore cancelled. Ewell Grove will remain open for all those currently attending.

## INDIVIDUAL CONVERSATIONS

The teaching staff have appreciated the overwhelming number of supportive conversations that have taken place this week. Thank you for taking the time to meet/talk with us. The information we now have will help us plan for the coming weeks whilst we all wait, frustrated, for the next Government announcement on wider opening for Primary Schools; especially the much needed answer to when! Please remember our phones lines have, and will remain, open for any one of our families to make contact with us.

## LEARNING FROM HOME

We are acutely aware that although increasing numbers of children will be returning over the next few weeks in newly formed 'Bubbles', we still have a significant number 'Learning from Home'. A key theme that emerged, particularly from KS2 families, was motivation or seemingly increasing lack of it. When you study the theme of motivation, in your teacher training, you are first taught the difference between 'intrinsic' and 'extrinsic' drive (the first being driven to do it for yourself and second for something or someone else). Our aim as teachers is to achieve a mixture of mainly intrinsic, but with a 'top up' of extrinsic; especially when a child is struggling. The way we achieve this is to bolster children's self-esteem by proactively giving acknowledgement in terms of their application/effort; this overrides end result. By emphasising that progress is being made, however small, puts any setbacks into perspective. Equally it teaches children, who generally seem to find most things easy that you still need to learn perseverance/resilience, in preparation for the inevitable something that comes along and causes you difficulty.

To support families with this, we are now asking all children, in years not yet returning to school, to submit two pieces of work per week. We want the first piece to be something your child feels proud that they have achieved - parents **MUST**

let their child decide and not override their decision. We all need to understand why it made them feel good about themselves. This can be something from the Learning from Home programme or not. Sending it in still means you can choose if you want your achievement shared more widely on the weekly newsletter or not... please just make sure you let us know.

The second piece of work needs to be something that you and your child feels needs support, help or advice in order to improve it. This does need to be from the Ewell Grove Home Learning programme. A member of staff will look at it and give you some feedback that you can use to a) make your work better b) improve your resilience and motivation.

Further ideas for nurturing self-esteem and motivation are:

- Notice your child's strength in creative tasks – making, designing, creating etc.
- Offer them choice in completing tasks – allow them an element of control and autonomy
- Keep a 'memory store' so that when they doubt themselves you can quickly remind them of a time when they were really successful and how it made them feel
- Praise effort and persistence; emphasise that we learn through continual practise, small-steps and mistakes.

Please use this email address:

[weekly.classnewsletter@ewell-grove.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:weekly.classnewsletter@ewell-grove.surrey.sch.uk)

*When emailing an entry please remember to put your child's class name in the subject box*

## DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION (DFE)

Guidance for parents and carers as schools and other education settings in England open to more children and young people can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Opening hours:

8am to 6pm – Monday to Friday

10am to 4pm – Saturday and Sunday