



Gatten & Lake Primary School
Oaklyn Gardens, Shanklin, PO37 7DG

Telephone: 01983 869910

Email - admin@gattenlakepri.iow.sch.uk

Website - www.gattenandlake.wordpress.com

Headteacher – Mrs Rebecca Day

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

NEWSFLASH
17/04/2020

Good Morning,



A bright rainbow welcome and sharing of hope from all at Gatten and Lake, with the amazing rainbow the children have created in school over Easter break. This is a great way of sharing our message of "thanks" and "hope" with the wider community and gathering an understanding of the message the rainbow brings.

I really do hope, you all managed to enjoy the Easter break as much as possible, in your homes and gardens, thanks to the wonderful weather we have experienced over the past couple of weeks.

I have seen some of you out and about in the community, taking your daily exercise either

walking the dog or on a bike ride, as well as collecting free school meals whilst we have been open over the Easter break, or on my journey to and from school each day.

There have also been some super portfolio posts, from children who chose to join in with the Easter challenge. The sharing of work as a family, wonderful baking opportunities as well as lots and lots of gardening experiences! I think we could all possibly consider entering Chelsea flower show this year, if it is still on or the local horticultural show!

Well, today is the final day of the Easter break. After the weekend, we return to term time and currently this looks like the model we successfully had up and running before the break for home-school learning. The teachers will set work for the children daily, based on the current learning sequence. There will continue to be six home-learning tasks per day varying in content, covering all aspects of the curriculum over time. The teachers will set this work the day before, then parents and carers have a chance to look at what is coming up and can schedule the following day accordingly. During the afternoon, teachers will be looking at the work of the day and giving feedback via Class DoJo and Purple Mash.

Please, please call the school if you have any problems accessing the online learning. We are all available to help at any time. School is open as usual and staff are on hand to support as we can. The messaging function on Class DoJo enables you to message the teacher about work or learning, which we really do take on board and work with you to support your child's learning. You can also message me and I will, of course, respond too.



In the newsletter at the start of the Easter break, I set a few little optional challenges. If you have any pictures of completed challenges, please send them through to me to share.

This was just one of the ideas that Gretel came up with – making a new rainbow headdress with her sister... a beautiful rainbow too. Well done girls.

Excellence for each child, each day



During the Easter break, Caelan and Morgan completed this piece of work and I thought it was a lovely idea to share. Maybe other families might like to have a go at a piece of family art work that can be kept for years to come and be passed on through family history. I'm sure children in the future will be doing learning about this period of time.

Thank you Caelan and Morgan for such a super idea and piece of work as a family.

These were the challenges I set – that can be continued throughout the half term, if you would like to.

- Consider starting a family tree, there are templates available online or a big piece of paper is a good starting point.
- Take responsibility for a few household chores, e.g. making and changing the beds, helping with the washing, cooking a meal together, baking a cake.
- Make a tally chart of all the different birds you see entering your garden
- Write a 25 line story – each family member creating a different line of the story and continuing from where the last person left off...
- Make a bubble mixture and explore blowing bubbles – Does a bigger wand make a bigger bubble? Can you make different shape bubbles with different shape wands?
- Make a den inside and 'camp out' for the night.
- Make a treasure hunt in your house and garden, making clues to find the mystery item

Technology use:

We are aware children are using devices more and more at this time, both in free time and in structured time as part of home-school learning. It is important to be vigilant with online safety messages such as; checking phones and devices for messages and the App usage; ensuring your child is feeling safe and not upset by messages they are receiving; monitoring face-timing etc. As always if you have any concerns regarding unsafe internet use of online safety, please do let us know. Safeguarding is equally as important now, as it always has been and even more so, with the increased usage.

Working from home routines

This is just a reminder of the information sent out via the newsletter on 27th March regarding advice that parents and carers work with children, to adopt a clear approach for working from home from the very first day at the start of this new term. We don't know how long this will be in place and we want to work with you to ensure we are still providing an education for your children. We have been thrilled to see that many families have adapted well to this and have a clear system up and running at home. This will vary from household to household. There is no 'best way' to do this. It must work for your family at this time.

Suggestions of what should be included in your routine:

- A set place to complete school work - age appropriate of course. This space should be used to build the structure and, of course, should be free from distraction such as the television or telephones.
- A set time period to begin and end activities – either in one session or with breaks built into the day.
- Getting dressed before beginning work - this helps everyone home working.
- Staff will monitor completed work and will be feeding back to the children.
- We will inform you if work is not being completed.

Now this is established and up and running we will be making contact with families if work is not being completed to establish the barriers to this, and offer support in ensuring the children can access and complete their daily tasks.



Our School Rules

| <u>Do</u> | <u>Don't</u> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 😊 Be kind and helpful | 😞 Hurt anybody |
| 😊 Work hard | 😞 Waste time |
| 😊 Look after everything | 😞 Waste or damage things |
| 😊 Listen to people | 😞 Interrupt |
| 😊 Be honest | 😞 Cover up the truth |

School Rules:

Another just a reminder item...

We know that many homes have rules and boundaries and these will be in place during this period of time. But a few people have asked... so I thought I'd update the language we use in the school rules, so we can reinforce the positive messages about being kind and helpful to people, looking after things (especially during this time), listening to people, being honest and working hard.

Please remember we are here to help if we can – contact info is at the bottom of the newsletter.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

During this time we appreciate that situations may unfortunately be changing for people. I have therefore, attached a separate attachment this week with the newsletter, a form for completion for the allocation of free school meals. The form clearly indicates the list of qualifying benefits you need to be in receipt of in order to qualify for free school meals. The form can either be returned to school, or an application can be made online – as indicated on the form (www.iwight.com/schooladmissions) which, after processing, will indicate whether you are entitled to free school meals or not.

If you feel you may now qualify for Free school meals – please do complete the form and return as soon as possible.

Gatten and Lake are not part of the voucher scheme set up by the government, as instead we are offering weekly hampers for each child or a hot meal daily if the children are in school. All children who currently qualify have been contacted directly and this process is all up and running. The first hampers will be ready for collection at school from 12:30pm on Wednesday 22nd April. A socially distanced line will be made to collect hampers and all parents have been asked to bring a bag for life with them, to collect their food items, as well as an egg box to collect eggs. I have also been told that plastic Chinese food boxes hold 6 eggs... I have not tried myself, but possibly an alternative, to avoid any breakages!

NHS and School Nursing:

The NHS 0-19 Public health team including Health Visitors and School Nurses will continue to be available via our duty desk: Tel: [821388](tel:821388)

Email: www.0-19dutydesk@nhs.net

We have a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/IOWPHTEAM/>

We recommend that parents and young people have a look at these websites for general health advice.

<https://what0-18.nhs.uk/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/>

School Contact Information:

Please remember the school is open daily during usual school opening times, every single day to ensure we are available to everyone and for children that are coming to school if they are in the Government categories of being a child of a key worker and no other childcare is available or a vulnerable child.

If there is a slight delay in our response, this will be due to us working with a skeleton staff in school to ensure the school staff safety during this time too. But I can assure you staff are all working hard providing learning experiences for your child remotely.

Telephone number: 01983 869910 or in any emergency 07399 815187

Email: admin@gattenlakepri.iow.sch.uk

Again, I would like to send warm well wishes to all the Gatten and Lake families, their extended families and the community at this time. If I can be of assistance at any time, please do not hesitate in making contact. I really do hope to see you all as soon as possible.

Kindest Regards,

Rebecca Day – Headteacher