

# The Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 23

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

*Dear Parents & Carers,*

Thank you all for your continued support during these difficult times. I know many of you, including myself, continue to face the challenges of working from home and monitoring our own children's learning and I don't know about you, but I have resorted to other ways of learning. Lots of creativity and baking. I am finding hidden talents in myself. We had an isolation birthday this week and I even baked my first birthday cake!

I cannot thank Miss Amy enough for all the updates on Twitter and Facebook as well as the school website and ParentMail. Please get connected, there are great prompts. On Thursday morning, I enjoyed the Young Voices workshop. There are daily dance workshops from Step by Step dance school and other forums. The school website has lots of hints and tips in the 'home learning' section. Please see the links below:

- <http://www.thegoodshepherdprimaryschool.org.uk/page/?title=Home+Learning&pid=70>
- <https://www.facebook.com/thegoodshepherdnorthampton/>
- <https://twitter.com/TGSNorthampton>

We would like to inform you that we will be having a break over Easter. There will be no work set over this period and therefore staff will not be marking or responding to pupils/parents during this time.

Should you wish to continue with home learning activities, there is a video guide on the 'home learning' of the school website page (linked above), which shows you how to find some daily work for children to do in Maths and English on Purple Mash.

I hope you will support me in thanking all of the teachers for the work they have achieved thus far. It was no easy task to learn the new system in an extremely short space of time and to prepare home learning packs. Work will resume on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020. We have a number of measures of support and regular contact is in place for those families who need it and I know a number of you are already in contact with Mrs Auburn our Family Support Worker. If you feel you may need further assistance from our Family Support Worker, please email [admin@thegoodshepherd.northants.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thegoodshepherd.northants.sch.uk) in the first instance, marking your e-mail 'FAO: Mrs Auburn'.

We are going to take this time to socially distance ourselves with our families whilst planning and preparing for a new term which at this point looks as though it will be more virtual learning.

I would like to thank the staff for all the telephone calls they have got through this past week, 360 phone calls does take quite a lot of time!

We pray for everyone at this time and we ask that you continue to pray for us too. We miss each and every one of your children very much and our school is empty without them. We cannot wait to be back to some form of normality as a whole school community.

Have a happy and holy Easter, Mass will be streamed live on the Cathedral website - <http://northamptoncathedral.org/times/>.

*Take care and God Bless,*

*Mrs Dodds and Mrs Robinson*



[www.TheGoodShepherdCatholicPrimarySchool.org.uk](http://www.TheGoodShepherdCatholicPrimarySchool.org.uk)



@TheGoodShepherdNorthampton



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# TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

Mrs Rainbow has set up a TT Rock Stars battle. Each class will do battle with the other class(es) in their year group!

3P vs. 3D, 6T vs. 6C...who will win!?

The battle starts on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April and finishes on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020.



<https://play.ttrockstars.com/>



We can't celebrate your birthdays together, so we have decided to send a birthday shout out to you instead!

A big HAPPY BIRTHDAY to...

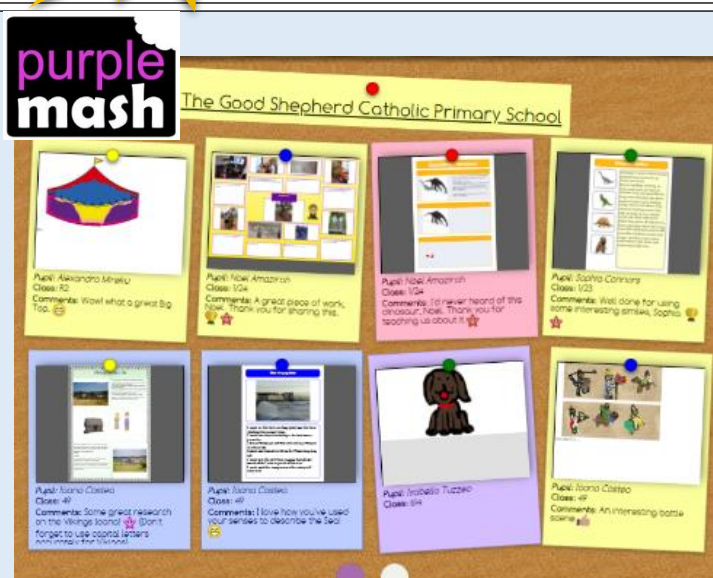
24<sup>th</sup> March - Stefan V

25<sup>th</sup> March - Ahmed B & Daria S

26<sup>th</sup> March - Leo L

30<sup>th</sup> March - Jakub F, Jonathan D, Joseph C & Laura T

1<sup>st</sup> April - Olivier B



Here are some great examples of work submitted onto our Purple Mash Display Board!

Over the Easter break, why not check out your class blog or even create a blog of your own that your teachers and friends can read? We have attached a 'how to' guide to get you started.

Log in - <https://www.purplemash.com/sch/thegood-nn2>

If you do not have your log in, please e-mail [admin@thegoodshepherd.northants.sch.uk](mailto:admin@thegoodshepherd.northants.sch.uk)

## Rainbows



Mrs Miller sent Nursey and Reception children a video message via Tapestry this week.

Ensure to log in a keep using Tapestry EYFS!

## Mr Pearce's Challenges!

Join in Mr Pearce's challenges on Twitter! He started off with the #teacupchallenge. Last week Francesca, Giovanni, Luciano and Joseph took part. There is a new challenge this week, tag us in your attempts!





[illegible]





*Dear Parents and Carers,*

In only one week there has been such a dramatic change to our pace of life. To begin with we were adapting rapidly to new instructions and rules and for the most part wanting to get it right. The realisation of the enormity of what was happening was settling into our very beings. Social distancing, self-isolation, shielding... suddenly this became our common language.

It is as if our world has turned upside down – a diary full has become a diary empty, the cries of ‘I wish I had more time’ have become ‘I have so much more time’, ‘this is madness’ has become ‘this is normal’...

For those working for the NHS and in care, their days are full and relentless in a new and frenzied way. For those in the supermarkets, rubbish collection, post and delivery and other essential services, their work continues with a new emphasis on the importance of their role in society.

Looking for rainbows in every situation can be tricky at times like these... but if like me you tried to count them there were just so many...amazing! Moments during the past week like the shout-out for the NHS were truly uplifting! One couple I know, both paramedics, have had to cancel their wedding this weekend. They have said that support shown by the shout-out as they drove through London with blue lights flashing meant everything to them!

For you as parents, the demands are now on your organisational and creative skills in a way that was never imagined, as every day family life is centred on truly existing together, showing love and kindness no matter what .... So continue to find a solution to each problem as it arises, search for a rainbow in every situation and you will be able to bring a calmness to every storm...and in all of this, just remember to take time to breathe!

*God bless,*

*Mrs Darwin*

*Trust Chaplain*