

Sparsholt C. E. Primary School

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Thursday 7th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, thank you for the overwhelming positivity you and your children have shown towards the home learning activities. The imaginative and ingenious ways people have approached the tasks has just reiterated to us at school what a resilient and creative community we have.

This week's theme is 'Food Glorious Food' – something many of us have no doubt filled our time enjoying.

Whilst Sunday's announcement from Boris Johnson may give us some more clarity about what the future holds in regards to easing lockdown, we know some parents are concerned about the amount of school their children are missing; about whether they are 'doing it right'; doing too much; doing too little. We want to reassure you that whatever you are doing is right. What is most important is your family's mental health and well-being and that your children return to school feeling calm and motivated whenever that might be.

The following, which some of you may have already seen, may give some reassurance and is certainly food for thought.

What if?

Many people are concerned about pupils falling behind because of schools being closed.

But what if instead of falling "behind", this group of children are ADVANCED because of this?

What if they have more empathy, they enjoy family connection, they can be more creative and entertain themselves, they love to read, they love to express themselves.

What if they enjoy the simple things, like their own garden and sitting near a window in the quiet?

What if they notice the birds and the dates the different flowers emerge, and the calming renewal of a gentle rain shower?

What if this generation are the ones to learn to cook, organise their space, do their laundry, and keep a well-run home?

What if they learn to plan shopping trips and meals at home?

What if they learn the value of eating together as a family and finding the good to share in the small delights of the everyday?

What if they are the ones to place great value on our nurses, doctors, teachers and educational professionals, librarians, public servants and the previously invisible essential support workers like lorry drivers, supermarket workers, refuse collectors, and health care workers and their supporting staff, just to name a few of the millions taking care of us right now while we are sheltered in place?

What if among these children, a great leader emerges who had the benefit of a slower pace and a simpler life to truly learn what really matters in this life?

What if they are AHEAD?

Anon

We hope you have a lovely weekend and please do contact us either by phone or email if you need any help or guidance.

Mrs Hanratty
Headteacher

Mrs Gwilliam
Deputy Headteacher

