

To all our fabulous year 6 pupils,

We don't know about all of you, but the Year 6 staff have found the last few weeks very strange indeed. We have really missed coming into school each day and seeing your lovely eager faces. Mr Blaker and I have found that one of the weirdest things is how quiet the school seems without all of you running about, chatting and laughing. We do hope that you are all well and looking after each other – especially looking after your parents, who need you to be on your best behaviour. If you have felt rather discombobulated (great word – Ms Abbott would approve) and unsettled this past week, don't worry, you are not alone. It's perfectly normal, and it's okay to admit feeling like that ourselves. Remember, it won't last forever and by pulling together we will all get through it. We wonder if any of you could come up with a good 'precept' (like the ones from our class book 'Wonder') to motivate the rest of us? Mine is: mistakes are proof you are trying. Mr Blaker wrote this one: Always be bold enough to be yourself. Mr Kirk wrote: Each day is a chance to do something positive.

How are you finding the activities that we have set for you? We tried to make them look familiar to you so that you would be able to access and understand them. Please do remember that there are plenty of other ways to get your maths fix (we know you miss it!). If you can get out into the garden safely, then try some of these:

<https://outdoorclassroomday.org.uk/resources/lesson-ideas/> Speaking of being outside, we hope that you are coping with the 'lockdown' that is in place across the country. It must be difficult not to just get on your bike or scooter and go to visit your friends or see your loved ones that live in different places; but remember, we are doing it to keep everyone as safe as possible.

We are looking forward to hearing about your WW1 and biomes projects. I bet it has been nice to be able to choose something that really interests you and research that. Getting some sort of structure into your day is important. How do your days look? Mr Kirk and Mr Blaker are starting their 'school' day with their whole family doing the PE with Joe (Joe Wicks) daily workout! It's amazing to think that millions of people are in their houses doing the same workout, at the same time as you. If you have not had a chance, look for yourselves at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RzOgo1pTda8>.

This week's activities and home learning tasks follow a similar pattern to last week. Maths looks at percentages, fractions, multiplying decimals, translation and using division to solve problems. So a good variety to keep you going. Do remember to use the web links listed on the school website to help you, if you find things a bit tricky. You can also find help with a quick search of YouTube and other sites. Remember, you can also FaceTime/Skype a friend – it will be a good way to keep in contact. Keep going with your SPAG and spelling. For writing this week, you will be writing a 500-word story. We have included a fantastic picture and some questions to get you going. We are excited to see what you can come up with. Let your imaginations run wild - but remember the drafting and editing process!

Remember - as important as it is to keep going with the activities that we are setting for you, you should also be trying out loads of new and exciting things you may not usually get the time to do.

Some ideas could be:

1. **Cooking and baking.** How about taking on a day and saying you will prepare or help prepare the meals on that day? Maybe even design the menu!
2. **Journaling.** This is fun way to spend time, to collect your thoughts, write, draw and be creative. Mr Kirk has begun to keep a journal of all the amazing and positive things people are doing around the world to help each other. <https://www.homeschooling-ideas.com/journaling-for-kids.html>
3. **Orienteering.** Set up an orienteering course in your house/garden. Create your own maps, grid reference system and clues, then hide objects and get other members of your family to find them
4. **Start learning a new language.** Look online for resources - there are plenty of apps too - and begin to discover a new language. How about teaching yourself sign language? – try this: <https://youtu.be/rR2Zb7TbiOA>
5. **Have a debate with your whole family.** Use these one-minute YouTube clips from the 'Philosophy Man' to start interesting debates on a range of different subjects. Get started here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-8R7MERBVOgtqOaqulqrBg/videos>

Try to keep yourselves busy this week: be active where you can, do your set activities, try many new things – but, above all, look after each other, be kind and keep safe.

Miss Davidson and The Year 6 Team