

# PARENT BULLETIN - Thursday 7th May 2020



Dear Parents/Carer,

Firstly a huge thank you to those families who have sent in videos for our Swan - it has been great to see you all enjoying yourselves. We look forward to sharing the finished product with you when it is done!

You will see that we have included some suggestions for enrichment activities in the bulletin below. These are opportunities to get children active and away from their digital screens. We hope that they are useful in helping to keep your children occupied and provide a well needed break from academic work.

Ms Wood

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## **Annual Parent Survey**

All schools seek to receive feedback from parents and carers on an annual basis. This is particularly helpful to us as a new school as we continue to develop our approaches - your views really do help to shape how our school is run.

Please complete [this survey](#) to share your views about our school by **the end of half term (Friday 29th May)**. We ask you to try to reflect on the **year as a whole** rather than just the recent period of partial closure.

## **Curriculum**

### **Knowledge Organisers**

We have posted home knowledge organisers for each subject. These should have reached home by now, if you have not received one, can you please kindly email [headteacher@theswanschool.org.uk](mailto:headteacher@theswanschool.org.uk). Knowledge organisers are a great summary of each subject topic and will help children to complete work and catch up on any learning gaps.

## **Enrichment**

### **The Swan (Audio)Book Club**

A reminder that our current book is *Robinson Crusoe* by Daniel Defoe and chosen by Edward Thomas (7H). Please find the book at this link:

[https://stories.audible.com/pdp/B002UZLIN6?ref=adbl\\_ent\\_anon\\_sc\\_pdp\\_pc\\_0](https://stories.audible.com/pdp/B002UZLIN6?ref=adbl_ent_anon_sc_pdp_pc_0). We will aim to discuss this book via a virtual Google Hangout meeting on Wednesday 20th May at 4pm. Please make sure your child emails me to request an invitation to the Hangout if they have not already joined Book Club. Mrs Hinze.

### **Other opportunities**

We are often sent information about different activities that are available for families to get involved in. We are passing some of them on below as we thought it might help families with some inspiration. Please note that we cannot guarantee the quality of any of these activities.

- **VIRTUAL COWLEY ROAD CARNIVAL** – CARNIVAL ARTS AT HOME  
<http://www.cowleyroadworks.co.uk/carnival-online/virtual-carnival/>

With these challenging times ahead the Carnival team has put together some plans for a Virtual Carnival on Sunday 5th July 2020. Nobody knows what will happen between now and the 5th of July, the day when we would normally take to the streets to celebrate Oxford's amazing community, so we have put together some ideas that you can get involved in, that we plan to stream on Carnival day. We're hoping to help you to still get that carnival feeling wherever you are!

So let's see your creative side, get your household together and your cameras ready, have fun working with the ideas we have below and then send the videos to us so that we can create a community online carnival. We want to showcase all the brilliant artists, musicians, stall holders, traders and communities who make Cowley Road Carnival the celebration we know and love. Here are some ways you can get involved in our online carnival.

Download our Guide Ways to get involved Virtual Carnival 2020

What is more – we want to see what you are doing. We will be streaming on Carnival Day. Please film your music, dance, artwork and creative endeavours and share with us via twitter @CowleyCarnival #VirtualCarnival #carnival@home #CowleyRoadCarnival, Facebook or Instagram.

Download our how to film guide here. Cowley Road Works Filming Guide

<http://www.cowleyroadworks.co.uk/carnival-online/carnival-arts-home/>  
<http://www.cowleyroadworks.co.uk/carnival-online/learning-projects/>

- **Yoga**

Weekly Yoga & Mindfulness - Videos & Activities

Fun Stories, Games & Activities for Children & Families as a weekly progressive course - with Kids Love Yoga Online! Please click on the [link](#) to find out more!

## **Wellbeing**

### **Resources to support Parents**

The Royal College of pediatrics and child health has put together some wonderful resources to help support parents as well as some activities for children.

[Various links to good resources across the UK to support parents](#)

[Stay at home - activities for children](#)

The NSPCC have designed some great resources to support parents and carers during this time.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/coronavirus-advice-support-children-families-parents/>

### **Online Safety:**

Online safety advice from the National Online Safety Organisation, this week we are focusing on the app 'Houseparty'. You can find the information sheet for it [here](#).

## **Other**

### **Google Hangouts**

Some students have been using the 'google hangouts' function to video chat with one another in order to communicate, socialise and help each other with the work. We are keen to help students stay in touch, and maintain connections. However it is not possible for us to monitor what they do and say over video chat.

If you have any concerns about anything taking place in a hangout, please let us know immediately. If we are concerned that hangouts are being misused, we can disable them, but we are eager to keep this option open to students if possible.

### **Free School Meals**

Free School Meals vouchers - for those in receipt of free school meals, you will now have received four voucher codes. Please can you let us know if this is not the case. Please remember the eCode should be redeemed as soon as you receive it for an eCard. The eCard will then be valid for at least a year, depending on which supermarket you chose. Please do not hesitate to contact us via [office@theswanschool.org.uk](mailto:office@theswanschool.org.uk) or on [01865 416070](tel:01865416070) should you have any queries. We are here to help.

### **Information on food access during COVID-19**

[Here](#) is a link to Good Food Oxford that details The Oxfordshire Food Access Services Database and Map that shows charities, community projects and other places that provide free or subsidised food across Oxford and Oxfordshire, you can look in your specific area, for example, OX4.

Also a new partnership has formed 'OX4 Free Food Crew' providing hot meals twice a week to those most in need living in OX4, more information and how to refer [here](#).

### **Key Dates:**

- **Bank Holiday (Friday 8th May)** - The school will be closed on the bank holiday, which means we will not be offering provisional care for key worker children, and there will be no work set for children.
- **Half Term** - 25th May to 29th May. We plan to remain open for the children of key workers. Please let us know if your requirements have changed during this week. School will be closed on the bank holiday - Monday 25th May.