



Ashley Junior School

Aspiration • Resilience • Respect • Responsibility

17th April 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

What a very different Easter holiday that was for most of us! I hope you were able to enjoy the sunshine and some chocolate!

Attached is the menu for learning created by Teachers for the next two weeks along with a suggested daily timetable. You will see that the format for learning activities is a little different now. We thought it would be easier for parents – and perhaps more fun – if there was a joint topic that all children (and families) could get involved in. To this end we have created a Choice Menu that covers different learning areas with a range of tasks. The overall Topic is about ‘Countries’, however each column tends to have a theme. You can follow the column or you can select from different columns – we don’t mind. **This menu is intended to last for 2 weeks** and then there will be a new topic and new choices.

As the timetable suggests, alongside the Choice Menu your child should continue on a daily basis to:

- Access Reading Plus or Lexia to support progress in reading
- Use Mathletics so there is regular practise with maths concepts
- Use ‘Times Tables Rock Stars’ to practise number facts – this is new to years 5 and 6. Your teachers will be sending you a password so you can access it. This You Tube clip might help you get started. <https://youtu.be/p72cgbzdJBE>
- Learn spellings – either the High frequency words or the 3/4 or 5/6 spelling lists

These provide regular and bespoke practise in key skills and will be monitored regularly by your child’s teacher.

At this point it is important, I think, to direct you to the e-safety pages that Mr. Cousins has created. Your children are possibly spending more time than usual on their devices and the advice here is extremely helpful.

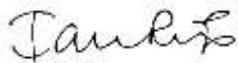
<http://ashleyjuniorschool.co.uk/e-safety-for-parents/>

We would also recommend that you register with the **National Online Safety** site that we belong to as a school. It is **free** and all you have to do is go to <http://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/ashley-junior-school> and register. When registering you will be asked what kind of user you are and you just need to select **Parent**.

We hope that this ‘diet’ will ensure key skills are developed as well as providing for curiosity, imagination and inquiry to be nurtured. As always, teachers will be available should you require help, support or advice.

This is such an extraordinary situation and we have to do the best we can with what we have. Your emails and photos are wonderful and show what a terrific job you are doing and what a positive approach the children are displaying. As I said before, what matters most is that you have fun together and that your children feel secure and safe – when this is over teachers will ensure they catch up academically because that is their job and what they are expert in. If you can, try to create a scrapbook or portfolio of the learning and experiences as one of the memories from this awful but historic time.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you need anything – we will do all we can to help. We hope that all is well with you and your loved ones. Keep in touch with us and stay safe.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Ian Rix'.

IAN RIX
Headteacher