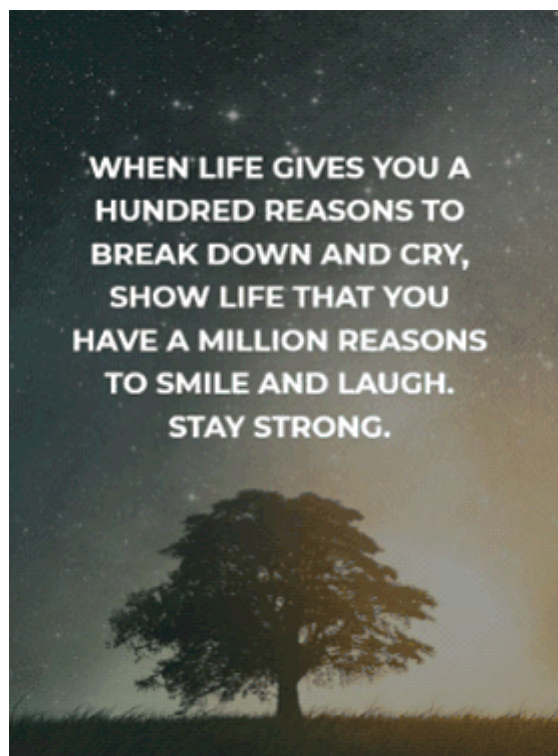


Mablins Lane Community Primary School Newsletter ~ 9th April 2020

Dear Parents and Children

I hope that you are all keeping safe and well.



Easter Break

It seems very strange to be writing a newsletter during the Easter break, but there is nothing normal about our current situation. Some children are still attending school, including tomorrow 'Good Friday', whilst their key worker parents continue to do the important jobs to get us through this crisis.



For those at home the weather has been excellent and I hope that you have been able to take some of the fabulous Easter ideas from the website and get stuck in to some outdoor learning.

I would like to reiterate what I said last week and make it clear that this is an emergency situation and you should not be feeling worried or pressured about 'home-schooling' your child. You can only do what you can do – there are no rights or wrongs. If this were the Easter holiday most children would be having a break and doing different things with their families.

I have heard from one member of staff who is organising a 'Christmas/Easter' lunch for Sunday.

School OPEN!!

The school has continued to open over the 'Easter Holiday' for the children of our key workers. It is important to point out that we are offering a child care facility for Key Workers where there is no other availability for care.

Provision will continue over the Easter period, including the Bank Holidays.

Please contact me head@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk admin@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk should you require a place.

We must all play our part in supporting the NHS at this time of crisis.



Income Related Free School Meals

The Government promised to support those families where pupils are entitled to a 'free school meal' (FSM). Last week a National voucher scheme was set-up in order to deliver this support. PLEASE NOTE Income Related Free School Meals is entirely separate to the Universal Infant Free School Meal that all children in EYFS, Years 1 and 2 receive. The voucher system only applies to Income Related Free School Meals.

We have over 80 children entitled to income related FSM on our list and we have contacted those families to ensure we have an accurate email address in order to process the vouchers. **If you have not responded then**

please contact us as soon as possible in order for us to process your vouchers claim:

admin@cheshireeast.gov.uk

head@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk

Due to the huge demand across the Country it has taken some time for vouchers to be delivered to families but I understand that families are now receiving them via email, the email is from noreply@edenred.co.uk remember to look in your junk or spam folders too. Hopefully if you have not yet received a voucher that you were entitled to it will be with you by the weekend. If you continue to have problems then please do not hesitate to get in contact with us.

Well Being Support

At this time of difficulty we aim to provide as many different contacts and avenues of support as possible. This week we focus on mental health.

Mental health and wellbeing is paramount to us all living happy and successful lives. At a time of crisis it is difficult to maintain positive mental health. Recognition that we may not be coping is the first major step to regaining positivity. Should anybody need a little extra support there are services available to help.

Mental Health Helpline - 0300 303 3972



Local NHS Trust, Cheshire and Wirral Partnership (CWP), has launched a new mental health helpline for residents of Cheshire West, Cheshire East and Wirral.

Open 24 hours a day, seven-days a week, it is open to people of all ages including children and young people who may need urgent mental health support.

What to do if you need urgent mental health help:

- Please call **0300 303 3972** and our dedicated local NHS staff will support you to access the help you need;
- The helpline is open **24 hours a day, seven days a week** and is open to people of all ages – including children and young people;
- The helpline is now the **first port of call for mental health help** – it is operated by people in your local area who will know how best to support you. If you call NHS111 you may have to wait longer for help and will be re-directed to this local service – so call 0300 303 3972;



Help in a crisis

- Please note, A&E and 999 are **not the best places** to get help for the majority of mental health problems – **call 0300 303 3972** to be directed to the best local service to support you;
- You should still call 999 or go to A&E if you have an **immediate, life-threatening emergency** requiring mental or physical health assistance;
- For non-urgent help and **general wellbeing advice**, the CWP website contains information and links to resources to support people with anxiety, low mood, and worries relating to the current Covid-19 pandemic www.cwp.nhs.uk
- For **children and young people** there is also a dedicated website MyMind.org.uk

Safety Online

A reminder to parents that whilst children are accessing information on line and maybe using social media to keep in contact with family and friends, there is a need to be vigilant around internet safety. Below are some useful links to help parents and carers:

- [Thinkyouknow](#) (advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online)
- [Internet matters](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [Parent info](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [LGfL](#) (support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online)
- [Net-aware](#) (support for parents and carers from the NSPCC)



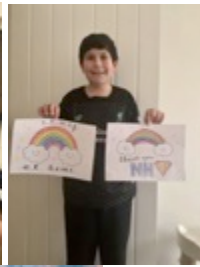
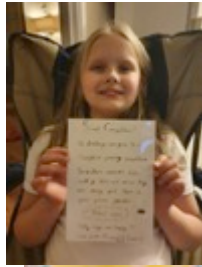
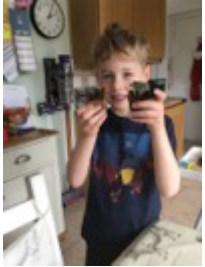
Clapping for the Key Workers

#ClapForOurCarers

Thursday evening at 8pm has become a significant time in the week when we all take to our doorsteps and driveways to clap for the NHS and key workers. I have clapped along with my neighbours in support of the selfless way that people are giving of their time, effort and energy. Jessica in Y2 sent us a picture clapping outside her house to say thank you to us! We are looking after her whilst mum works and she just wanted to say thank you.

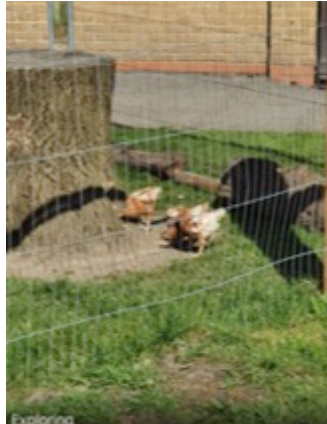


Celebration of home learning work



Thank you so much for the work that has been shared again this week! It is so lovely to see this work and that our Mablins children are enjoying their home activities. If you would like to share your learning too, then log in to the VLE pages on the website or email:- deputy@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk

Forest School challenges are also on the website for children to enjoy and take part in! Our FS pond is looking lovely this spring and the chicks are loving their new home!



Blessings!

We have been touched by the countless blessings posted on our website.

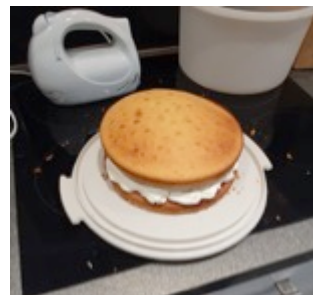


Although it is easy to focus on the negative, or home in on people's worries and fears, we felt it would be nice to celebrate some of the simple but important activities or events that have taken place during this time that you otherwise might not have done, or that you suddenly appreciate more e.g. cleared your garage, played Monopoly, shared a meal together, got to the bottom of the washing basket, talked to a neighbour over the fence, baked a cake etc.

Each of these small actions is a prayer in itself and shows 'We keep calm and carry on'. If you would like to share a smidgen of positivity, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant, email the school on mlcps@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk with the subject 'Blessings' – no need to write a message. You could simply write; 'We made a kite and tried to fly it in the garden' and hit send!



Check out the website to see what is already there – we have so far had cake making, making pictures to say thank you, helping



parents use the internet and speaking to family using social media!

We love this idea and many families are using this creative activity to share with each other! Have a go and share with us!

Reading Challenge

What are you reading this week?



Can you take the daily reading challenge and read for at least 15 minutes every day?

Where can you read?

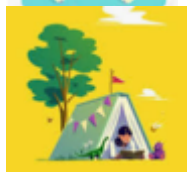
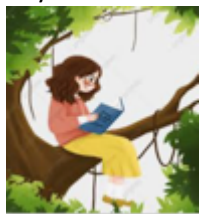
In bed

In the bath

In the garden

Up a tree

In your tent



This week we want to see you all reading in as many different places as possible. Send your pictures to mlcps@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk and we will post on Twitter. Be creative and 'get reading!!!'

Mrs Joule's Challenge

This week there is a geography theme.

I love to travel and that is something at the minute that none of us are allowed to do unless it is for an 'essential' reason.

So

You are going on an amazing journey
AROUND THE WORLD.

The Equator is an imaginary line that goes around the world at its widest part. You are going to take a journey around the Equator.

How many countries do you pass through?

How many oceans?

What is the weather like?

HINT: you may need some sun cream and a hat.

Enjoy the journey!!

Being Bolder and Brighter

What if . . .

What if they cancel the rest of the school year? Students would miss 2 and a half months of education.

Many people are concerned about students falling behind because of this. Yes, they may fall behind when it comes to classroom education . . .

But – what if . . .

What if - our children, young people, families and friends became **ADVANCED** because of our situation?



WHAT IF . . .

What if – they had more empathy, they enjoy family connection, they can be more creative and entertain themselves, they love to read, and they love to express themselves in writing?

What if - they can enjoy the more simple things, like their own gardens 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 who learn to cook, organize their space, do the laundry, and keep a well-run home?

What if - they learn to stretch a pound to live with less?

What if - they learn to appreciate 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 teachers and educational professionals, librarians, public servants and the previously invisible essential support workers like truck drivers, grocers, cashiers, custodians, logistics 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 in a sheltered 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**?

Walk slowly and breathe the air.

Children are resilient.

We will come back stronger.

Priorities for coming weeks

Our priorities over the next few weeks include:

- Providing vouchers to families in receipt of Free School Meals
- Monitoring and reviewing the arrangements we have made to care for the children of parents working in the critical services
- Delivering Easter holiday care arrangements for Key Worker's children
- Planning transition arrangements for all pupils
- Liaising with the DfE, Regional Schools' Commissioner, Cheshire East and local headteachers

Finally – GOOD NEWS!

A ray of hope and a shining light.
Good news!



I have just heard that Miss Warriner gave birth to a beautiful baby son, Harry, yesterday afternoon. Mum and baby are doing well. We send Miss Warriner and her family our very best wishes and look forward to meeting Harry soon.

Stay Safe



The last three weeks have shown me that the Mablins Lane School Community are able to be resilient and resourceful throughout these uncertain times. I have smiled at all the fantastic emails I am still being sent with some budding chefs, gardeners, sports men and women as well as new artists. I know I keep on saying it but I am extremely proud to be the head of our school. At the current time, we still don't know when we will return as a school – in the meantime we will endeavour to carry on communicating with you and ensuring that you are informed. Take care, look after yourselves and remember, some of us are still in school if you need support, help or advice.

With Kind Regards

Justine Joule
Headteacher