

Ramsgate Arts Primary School

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Dear RAPS Parents/Carers

We continue to find ourselves in a great period of uncertainty as we enter the fourth week of lockdown in our community. As we come to the end of the Easter break, I wish to express that our school will continue to support all of you over the coming weeks of uncertainty in the best way that we can and we will be trying where possible to reduce as much school-based anxiety as possible.

From Thursday 16th April, the school will be again open for children of **Critical Workers**. You would have been informed whether you have been offered a place by now. If you are a family that has two critical workers and were not offered this opportunity or have not heard that you have been offered a place, then please e-mail me asap - headofschool@ramsgateartsprimaryschool.co.uk.

For the rest of the school community for Term 5, we will continue to offer **Home Learning** through our daily blogs. As I said in my previous letter, the teachers are working hard to ensure that the activities are as accessible as possible; there have been some recent additions with Padlet, which also enables the children to communicate with each other and share their work. You would have been sent a secure password through MCAS. We are totally understanding of the fact that this is in no way replicating normal school life. It is impossible to do so given the current situation and we do not expect you to battle with your children over completing everything. So please do not stress over trying to achieve the award for being the parent who has got their children to do everything, instead use our work as a guide and try and get the children to do what you can. As parents, our main aim should be to reduce anxieties, to ease tension and to make life as enjoyable as we can. Get cooking, painting, do physical games, do some writing, keep a diary and tell them some of your stories from times past.

My staff and myself will endeavour to ensure that we stay connected as a RAPS community (whether that be through e-mails, Padlet, blogs, videos, phone calls etc.) as communication is an important way of supporting each other through this difficult time. It is really important that we continue to keep in touch, so please do keep posting your stories and activities as they continue to make us all smile.

We care very deeply about all of you and wish you all well. Support is what community is all about therefore may I thank you all for making it possible for us to work together to ensure that the children can still benefit from what are very challenging times. Finally, please know that we miss you all very, very much!

Warmest wishes

Mr Budge

Head of School

'One Childhood One Chance'

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