



Grove Primary School

Learn Together.....Grow Individually

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you all well and you enjoyed your Easter celebrations, despite the current situation. We are officially now in the summer term of this school year and I wanted to get in touch to pass on a few messages.

We will be trying to make phone contact with each family over the course of the coming week. We miss you all very much and just want to check you are all okay and whether there is anything we can do to help. Please be aware that class teachers will be ringing from home so this phone call will come up as a 'private number' or number with 'no caller ID'. We will try a few times if we don't get through straight away so don't worry if you miss our call but if it gets to the end of next week (Friday 1st May) and you haven't heard from your child's class teacher then do send an email to the school office with your contact details and we will call you back as it may be that we don't have the most up to date phone number for you.

To be really clear, this is absolutely not a 'checking up' but a 'checking in' phone call – we care deeply about our children and our families and want to help if we can. Teachers would love to speak to the children too if at all possible as it's just not the same being a teacher behind a computer screen – we miss their voices and their stories – so if you have more than one child in the school you will receive a call from each child's class teacher.

If you need to get in touch with us for any reason, the best way is to email us on admin@westwoodprimary.org or office@groveprimaryschool.org and your message will be forwarded to the relevant member of staff. EYFS families, you can also contact school via your child's EExAT Learning Story. You are, of course, welcome to comment on our Facebook posts but we don't always see them so we can't guarantee we will get back to you very quickly. Please note, the school office phones are not currently manned so please do not try to call us.

I also wanted to write to you to give you further guidance and support regarding home learning, as I know there are a lot of conflicting messages out there on social media at the moment.

However much we are trying to shield our little ones from the news and the adult worry over the current situation, they will pick up on this. Now is not the time for stressing over rigid routines, frantically completing worksheets or spending hours trying to get onto online learning platforms. Stressed adults cannot teach stressed children; that's a fact! Focus, instead, on connections and feelings of safety. Share your calm, share your strength and share your laughter. Protect your and your children's mental health and well-being. That

way, they will be ready to learn when they return to school – we can and will get them back on track.

I cannot emphasise enough how important it is NOT to try to replicate school at home. The activities that we have sent home are for you to use if you wish, but are not compulsory. Staff are working very hard to upload challenges and activities to our websites and Facebook that are linked to current learning, which should be fun and simple to complete at home.

However, don't be tempted to join the 'competition' that is currently raging on social media across the country. Your child will not fall behind, they are exactly where they need to be – at home, staying safe.

Our websites also contain a number of links to other possible learning materials (including the BBC bitesize daily lessons that have been launched this week, PE links, phonics video links etc.), documents regarding where to go for help if you need it, online safety and being aware of scams that are currently going around. You can access these by clicking on the Learning tab of the homepage and then selecting Home Learning. Do have a browse!

Kind regards

Rae Aldous
Executive Headteacher