Dear families...

We hope that you are safe and well. Please rest assured that each and every one of you are in our thoughts at this time. It has been really pleasing to see so much fantastic and vibrant learning taking place at home. We have seen a wide range of creative approaches to learning and we are delighted that so many of you have shared your child’s work on twitter with us. If you haven’t got a twitter account, they are easy to set up and, once you have done this, it will mean you can begin to interact with our school communities online. Remember to tweet your child’s work and include the school twitter handle (plus that of the Trust) - you can see these below:

@cedars_bham @robinhood_bham @Ulverleyschool @Yenton_Primary @RobinHoodTrust

As we mentioned in last week’s newsletter, we are continuing to look at how we approach home learning and are currently developing other methods of helping us to connect with your child in order to help them learn. We took the decision at the start of the shutdown that when we roll things out to parents/carers we would do this in a staggered approach so that we don’t overwhelm families at what is an incredibly stressful time. With this in mind, our next step is to find out a little more about the type of devices and access to the internet that you have at home - this will help us plan our next phase of home learning. In order to help us to do this we please ask that you complete a short survey about home learning. The survey will only take 2-3 minutes to complete and will help us to understand how we can best support all of our families. You should already have received a text from your school regarding the survey and if you haven’t yet completed it we can strongly urge you to do so as soon as possible - ideally we need every family to do this. You can access the survey by clicking here.

A number of parents have asked us about whether they should be continuing with the Learning Projects over Easter - this is really a matter for you to decide as you know your child best. If you feel that you still want to follow the projects as this adds structure to the day then please feel free to continue with them and rest assured that we are writing more material and additional weeks should the school shut down continue for a period of time. If however, you think that your child needs a break over the holidays then that is fine too. You may even decide to reduce learning for the Easter holidays down to one hour per day. Whatever you decide, it is important that following the Easter break the children return to completing 2 - 3 hours of learning per day.

In next week’s newsletter we will provide further information about how we plan to improve home learning for after Easter. In the meantime, have a positive weekend and please do complete the survey - it will help us so much.

Stay well.

Steve Taylor
Executive Headteacher
Robin Hood Multi Academy Trust
What's been happening this week?

As schools are working towards more online learning and encouraging children to communicate with them through various technologies, it is important to remind you of the importance of online safety whilst children are learning from home. See our parents guide to Supporting young people online.

#RobinHoodRainbows has hit the sky across all our schools. Thank you to all the children and parents that have contributed. See some of the awesome artwork here.

Keep Calm, Stay Wise, Be Kind. The stresses and strains of family life are being magnified during the current lockdown, particularly as it’s difficult for us all to find our own space. We’re pretty sure most families are beginning to feel the strain. Action for Happiness is an organisation that some of our schools follow as part of their staff and pupil wellbeing programmes. Their current Coping Calendar gives little tips for families to Keep Calm, Stay Wise, Be Kind. Have a look at their 10 Keys to Happier Living and if you have access to a printer there are some nice posters to colour in too. You could even add a few rainbows. #RobinHoodRainbows

Thank You to Georgia at Yenton for introducing us to Google 3D Animals. This is such a cool AR thing to do on your smartphone. There is literally hours of fun and photos to be had with this. Just Google a wild animal. These include: Alligator, Angler fish, Ball python, Brown bear, Cat, Cheetah, Deer, Dog, Bulldog, Pomeranian, Labrador Retriever, Pug, Rottweiler, Duck, Eagle, Emperor penguin, Giant panda, Goat, Hedgehog, Horse, Leopard, Lion, Macaw, Octopus, Raccoon, Shark, Shetland pony, Snake, Tiger, Turtle, Wolf and more...

At the top of the search you’ll see ‘Meet a life-size….and view in 3D’. Click on it and prepare for hours of fun. Re-size to get the correct scale and touch the screen to take a photo… Totally Awesome! Thanks Georgia! Send us your wild pictures to learningprojects@robinhoodmat.co.uk for next week's newsletter.