Unique and
Valued by God

ST MARK'S NEWS

Monday 6th April 2020

'A school where children develop the passion to learn; the skills and knowledge to succeed and the confidence to take Christian values into our diverse society.'

Dear Parents, Carers, Children, Staff and Governors,

I am sure that this is a very challenging time for all of us as we adapt to this new way of working and living. Well done for all of the work that has been achieved during the past two week. The teachers are working hard to provide children with work electronically on the school website. Follow the link: https://www.stmarkscofeprimarylambeth.co.uk/ and then the **Home Learning** tab to obtain the work sent through by teachers. There are also some educational games on the tab titled **Children.** Teachers will continue to host a Zoom call each week, providing the class with an opportunity to see their classmates and will give each child a phone call each week to say hi. The most important thing at this time is to take the opportunity to enjoy each other's company and enjoy your time together as families. Our school learning values of : **Effort and Hard Work**; **Accountability and Leadership**; **Self-control and Collaboration**; **Kindness and Compassion** and **Joy and Positivity** are crucial for us all at this time. Continue to liaise with your child's class teacher with any queries that you may have. You can contact Mr Ingram at headteacher@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk; the office at admin@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk or Mrs Moses (Inclusion Manager) at cmoses@st-markscofe.lambeth.sch.uk

Take care of yourselves and every blessing, Mr Ingram

Easter Message

We enter Easter week, just at the time when we and most of the world are looking for hope and encouragement. The events of Easter week, which took place around this time nearly 2000 years ago, can provide us with the meaning , purpose and peace that we need at this time. The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ was crucified on the cross to save us from our sins and to earn heaven for us. We take hope from His resurrection from the dead, which demonstrates his power and victory over death. Let us consider Christ who was willing to make such a great sacrifice for our sakes, and may we in turn be ready to make sacrifices for Him and for the others.

"Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us."

Romans 8:34

IMPORTANT NOTICES FOR PARENTS

Great Coronavirus Advice for Parents

A fantastic resources for all parents with excellent general well-being tips as well as extended guidance on manging anxiety, bereavement, keeping routines and the importance of communication. It also has links to lots for other resources.

https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Coronovirus%20%20Advice%20for%20parents%20Lambeth%20Educational%20Psychology%20Service.pdf

Message for parents whose children receive free school meals

During the first two weeks of the school closure, food hampers were offered to all our families whose children are entitled to frees school meals. We are now waiting for the Government to send out supermarket food voucher codes to the value of £15 per week per child. We will pass this onto you as soon as we receive them.

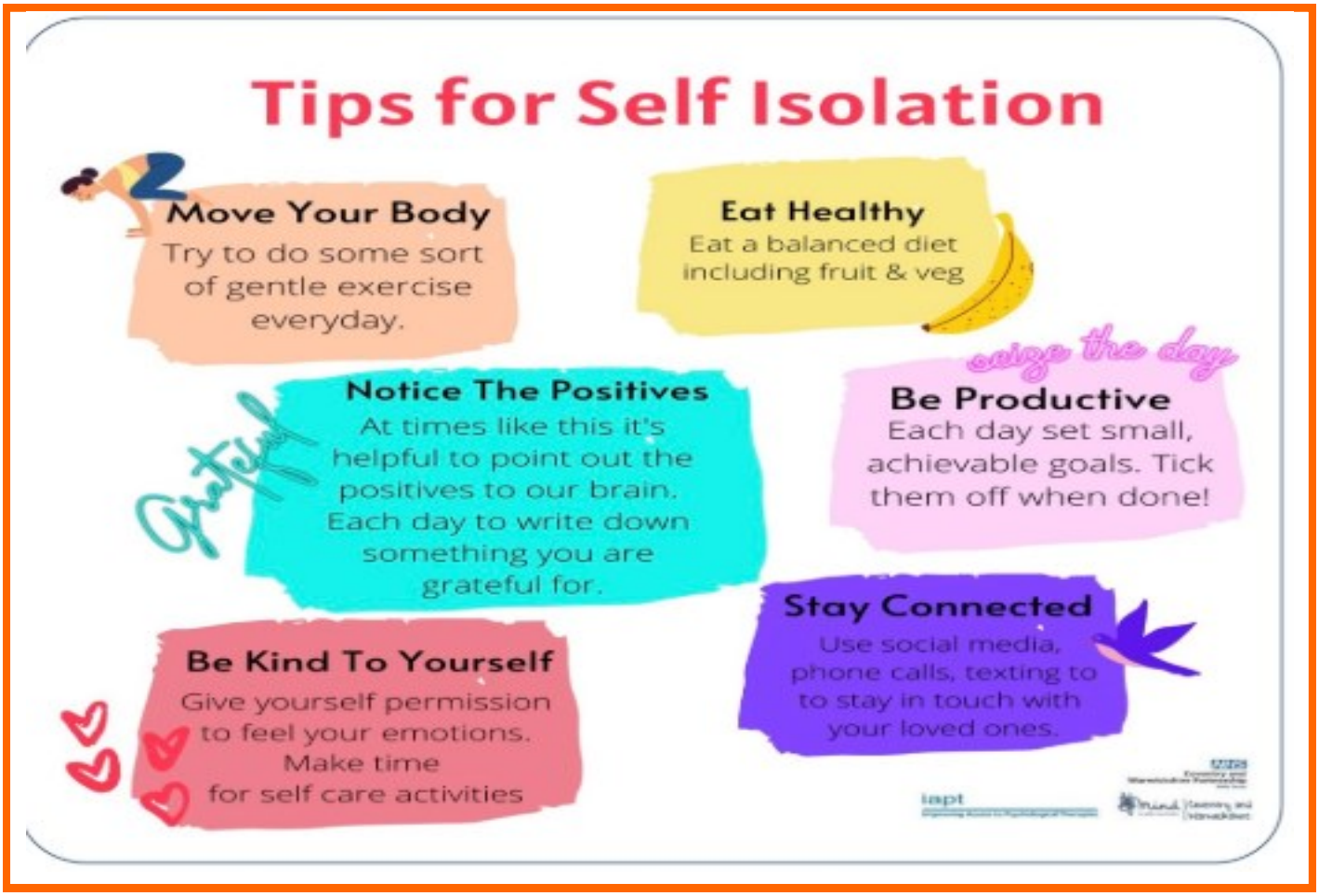
Online Safety Tips

Children throughout the UK are spending more time online than usual due to the circumstances. The NSPCC provides comprehensive guidance for parents in managing online safety at home.

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/

Follow us on Twitter:

StMarks_Lambeth



IMPORTANT NOTICES FOR PARENTS

Access to food / medication / advice for those in need

Any family who is struggling can refer themselves, or you can refer on behalf of any families you are worried about (no requirement for FSM status)

by phone 020 7926 2999 or online.

www.lambeth.gov.uk/elections-and-council/about-lambeth/lambeth-coronavirus-information/coronavirus-covid-19-support

Call out for volunteers

Lambeth is calling for volunteers to help the local massive food distribution effort for those self isolating or in need of extra help. Sign up here (requires ID check): www.lambeth.gov.uk/elections-and-council/about-lambeth/lambeth-coronavirus-information/coronavirus-covid-19-how-you-can

Help for those at risk of Domestic Violence

Confidential advice & support for those at risk of domestic abuse who might feel particularly vulnerable during self-isolation is available from the local Gaia Centre

by phone 020 7733 8724, text or email lambethvawg@refuge.org.uk

Best wishes

The Power Of Kindness

Use our kindness calendar to help children learn about the importance of being kind to themselves and encourage them to share their kindness with others. They can record daily acts of kindness and review all they have achieved at the end of each week. There are 10 activities to accompany the calendar and children and facilitators can also add their own.

Here are some ideas to get you started:

- write or draw what kindness means to them
- call or write to a relative
- write down three things they are grateful for
- check in on neighbours in a safe way – perhaps, put a note through their door
- draw a rainbow and put it in your window to show hope
- do something helpful for a friend or family member – help lay the table or could they keep their bedroom tidy?

stay at home - by following this advice you are being kind to others in the community and helping to save lives.

As this week marks the start of a new month, it's the perfect time to download the kindness calendar and encourage parents to share kind acts on social media using #PowerofKindness

https://www.redcross.org.uk/get-involved/teaching-resources/kindness-calendar

Examples of Home Learning

Fantastic home learning this week by Daniel, Jason, Lewi and Sophia (Nursery); Djelika (Yr 5); Soriah, Ziva and Jayden Lee (Year 6).

If you can, email your teacher a picture of yourself completing some work and we will add it onto the newsletter

Top tips for being in the house together

- Keep to a routine – wake up times, learning time, breaks etc
- Give your child some autonomy – get children involved in creating their own timetable
- Limit tablets, phones and TV and model this yourself
- Continue to practise English and Maths
- Make learning fun
- Listen to your children and be attentive—have good discussions and debates!
- Give children time to relax
- Encourage reading every day
- Don't expect children to work non-stop
- Encourage children to research something that it of interest to them
- Make the most of any outdoor space
- Provide movement breaks – exercises—there are lots of online workouts!
- Praise children's efforts and behaviour, not just their achievements
- Use this time as an opportunity to bond with your child – enjoy the time together
- Make the most of free resources—there are plenty on our school website
- Remain positive
- Engage children in cooking, housework, jobs and give them responsibilities

Non-screen activities you can do at home

Pobble

What can you do when there's no school and you're stuck at home? Here are 25 fun ideas to choose from.

25 ideas!

1 **How many different words can you make from the letters in this sentence, below?** Grab a pencil and paper and write a list!

'Learning from home is fun'

2 **Thank a community hero.** Think of someone that helps you in some way and write a short letter to thank them.

Thanks!

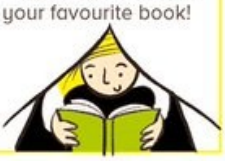
3 **Get building!** You could build a Lego model, a tower of playing cards or something else!

4 **Can you create your own secret code?** You could use letters, numbers, pictures or something else! Can you get someone else to try and crack it?

5 **Start a nature diary.** Look out of the window each day and keep note of what you see. Birds, flowers, changes in the weather, what else?

6 **Hold a photo session.** Use a camera or a mobile phone to take some snaps. What will you photograph? Your pets or toys perhaps?

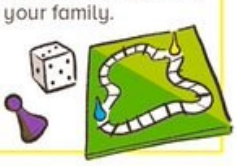
7 **Build a reading den.** Find somewhere cosy, snuggle up and read your favourite book!



8 **Use an old sock to create a puppet.** Can you put on a puppet show for someone?

9 **Make a list of all the electrical items in each room of your home.** Can you come up with any ideas to use less electricity?

10 **Design and make a homemade board game** and play it with your family.



11 **Do something kind for someone.** Can you pay them a compliment, make them something or help them with a task?

12 **Can you create a story bag?** Find a bag and collect items to go in it that relate to a well known story. If you can't find an item, you could draw a picture to include.

13 **List making!** Write a list of things that make you happy, things you're grateful for or things you are good at.

14 **Design and make an obstacle course at home or in the garden.** How fast can you complete it?

15 **Can you invent something new?** Perhaps a gadget or something to help people? Draw a picture or write a description.

16 **Keep moving!** Make up a dance routine to your favourite song.

17 **Write a play script.** Can you act it out to other people?

18 **Read out loud to someone.** Remember to read with expression.

19 **Write a song or rap about your favourite subject.**

20 **Get sketching!** Find a photograph or picture of a person, place or object and sketch it.

21 **Junk modelling!** Collect and recycle materials such as yoghurt pots, toilet rolls and boxes and see what you can create with them.

22 **Draw a map of your local area** and highlight interesting landmarks.

23 **Write a postcard to your teacher.** Can you tell them what you like most about their class?

24 **Draw a view.** Look out of your window and draw what you see.

25 **Get reading!** What would you most like to learn about? Can you find out more about it in books? Can you find a new hobby?