

# Polehampton C. of E. Schools Federation

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**Polehampton**

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Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear Polehampton Families,

## Keeping In Touch

We all hope you were able to enjoy some family time over Easter this year. Having such sunny weather has been a blessing, hasn't it?

We hope our [Infant](#) and [Junior](#) Hello Messages and our [Virtual Easter Bonnet Parade](#) made you smile!

Thanks to our staff, for popping outside your comfort zone in some cases! Whilst we are used to talking to all your lovely faces, talking to a camera is not something we are familiar with!!

Well done and thank you, Polehampton Staff!!

Whilst this is not the start to the Summer term that any of us want or would have anticipated, we have lots of lovely virtual things planned for you over the next few weeks, as well as continuing to support children and families with home-schooling.



## Polehampton's Best Books

After the success of our virtual Easter Bonnet Parade, we invite you to be part of "**Polehampton's Best Books**"! We would love to create a slide show of our Polehampton community with their favourite books. Here's how you join in.

- Find your best book, or one of your favourites, that you have at home. You could do a photo with alone, with your siblings or the whole family!
- Ask someone to take a photo of you and send it to [admin@polehampton-inf.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@polehampton-inf.wokingham.sch.uk)
- The deadline is Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 12noon.

**Remember by sending us your photo, you are agreeing**

- To us using Vimeo to create a photo slideshow including your child/ren
- To us putting the slide show on our Twitter feed
- To us putting it on our website

We would love to know the books you enjoy most - your photos will be helpful recommendations for our new libraries!!



### Home-learning

Now the “holidays” are over, we have uploaded/emailed out further work for children to complete at home. Whilst it is all optional, we hope you will find it a useful set of activities to allow your child to practice key skills.

Thank you for your feedback. We are always reviewing what is working and what we can improve. Whilst we won't be doing any virtual or video lessons, we will be providing a range of activities across the curriculum and signposting other quality learning ideas.

**Don't forget our key message - children should be doing some reading every day.**

### Two new online learning initiative have been launched today.

Now these platforms are live, we will have a good look at the content in both – at a first glance they seem good in terms of practising basic skills. We will see how we can incorporate them into the work we set. For now, do feel free to take a look yourself.



**BBC Bitesize** – Over the weekend, BBC Bitesize have launched their new online daily lessons for schools and parents. They say - “The homeschooling lessons have been created with teachers and other educational experts and feature a mix of videos, animations, practice activities, quizzes and games. Check back every weekday for brand new lessons.”



### Oak National Academy

Also launched today is the Oak National Academy. Oak National Academy is “a new collection of high-quality lessons and online resources. Back by the Government, it has been created in response to the coronavirus lockdown.

Their online classroom offers free access to teachers, delivering video lessons, quizzes and worksheets. It covers a range of subjects. Lessons are ordered so your child can learn along a clear plan. New lessons and resources will be provided each week.” Click here for useful parent information -

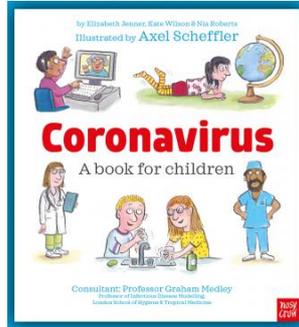
<https://www.thenational.academy/information-for-parents-pupils/>

For a link to the daily schedule, click here <https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom/schedule/#schedule>

### Admissions

If your child is due to start at the Infants or the Junior School this September, you should have received your offer by now. **Please ensure you accept this place by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May** or you could lose the place.

## Supporting Pupil Wellbeing



We signposted this before but I really like this book as a way of talking with children about their worries <https://nosycrow.com/blog/released-today-free-information-book-explaining-coronavirus-children-illustrated-gruffalo-illustrator-axel-scheffler/>

### [NSPCC – Advice and support for parents and carers](#)

Whether you are working at home with your children or supporting children with anxiety due to coronavirus, we have tips and advice for you.

### West Berkshire NHS

A helpful leaflet has been produced by West Berkshire NHS. **‘#Coping: Family life during the lockdown’** features the best and most reliable sources of support and information from national agencies and more local organisations. See attached.

### Safety Online

The parent branch of CEOP, thinkuknow, have produced an “at a glance” handout for parents about how to keep children safe online when they are off school

We hope you and your family all keep safe, well and happy over the coming weeks.

All our best wishes,

Miss Ball and the Polehampton Team

### See attached

- Thinkuknow – keeping your children safe online when they are off school
- ‘#Coping: Family life during the lockdown’

