



H O P E

Today as we break up for our February half term, it is time to reflect on the many things that you have achieved over the last 6 weeks and celebrate. Firstly, for the strength, perseverance, and resilience that each of you have shown, and I know that hasn't always been easy, I'm sure I'm not alone in having those moments where I've really had to 'dig deep'! However, throughout it all you've achieved so much. As parents you have: held everything together; kept your families safe, loved & cared for; found time to laugh and spend quality family time together; managed to work from home whilst for most of you, also finding time to support your children with their home learning – Wow! If that's not something to feel a sense of pride over, just in being able to keep all of those plates spinning. Please be kind to yourselves and remember that your best is good enough!

So now we count down the days as we await the government announcement on 22nd February to hear the plans for our route out of lockdown and most importantly, I hope we can begin to have a sense of optimism for when schools can re-open fully so that we can all be back together again. Unfortunately, we only receive this information at exactly the same time that you do, so we will do our very best to keep you informed and share the information as soon as we possibly can.

We have had an 82% uptake in our 'Virtually Vaynor Teams' meetings. These have been really well received and have brought smiles to the faces of the children and teachers alike. Thank you so much for all of your lovely comments via Tapestry and our MyEd app it's been truly appreciated by the Vaynor Team.

Thank you for taking the time to complete our Remote Learning questionnaire, we have had over 130 responses so far. The questionnaire doesn't close until 9am on Monday 15th February so there is still time to respond as we really do appreciate your feedback.

School reopens again to critical workers on Monday 22nd February and home learning begins again then. There will be no home learning set for over the half term holiday, so relax, enjoy and have fun doing all of the things that you most enjoy doing together but most of all please stay home and stay safe. Remember, this won't be forever.



"The sun will shine on you again and the clouds will go away"

Captain Tom Moore



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

We currently have vacancies within our Trust for the following positions:

- A School Caretaker and locking Custodian at Crabbs Cross Academy.
- An Operations Manager across the Trust.



For further details regarding these positions please see the Endeavour Schools Trust Website

[Endeavour Schools Trust - Vacancies](#)

GUIDANCE ON HOW TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

If you haven't already, please take a moment to look at the revised guidance from Public Health England about how to stop the spread of COVID-19.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-stop-the-spread-of-coronavirus-covid-19/how-to-stop-the-spread-of-coronavirus-covid-19>

USEFUL WEBSITES IN THESE TIMES



With ever changing financial family circumstances, families may well be finding it increasingly difficult particularly during holiday periods. **READY STEADY WORCESTERSHIRE** provides information about food, activities and outlines a range of support available to families.

By clicking the interactive map link, you can find organisations in your local area that can provide you with either food items to cook a meal at home or prepared meals for children during the school holiday period.

Without the usual routine and structure of the school day, keeping children active and entertained can also be difficult. Again, by clicking on the interactive map you will be able to see where there are activities taking place near to you during the school holidays.

In addition, the webpage contains lots of activity ideas which can be undertaken at home as well as signposting you to resources to help you to manage finances, household stress, relationships and mental wellbeing.

For more information visit:

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20818/worcestershire_school_holiday_food_and_activities



WORCESTERSHIRE HERE2HELP WEBSITE

This is a service run by Worcestershire for families who are self-isolating and unable to get support from friends, family or neighbours. There is an online form that you can complete to request the support that you need or call 01905 768053 which is open Monday to Thursday, 9am-5pm and Friday 9am-4.30pm. The type of support available includes:

- Collecting and delivering food and supplies
- Arranging emergency food support
- Help collecting prescriptions
- Help with other commitments such as pet needs
- Support for those who are feeling isolated
- Advice around money, benefits and debt

For more information visit: <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help>



ARE YOU A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC ABUSE?



If you are a victim of domestic abuse and violence, or know someone who is, there is help available:

The West Mercia **Women's Aid** Helpline on **0800 980 3331** is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and is staffed by trained workers who can offer you support, safety planning, information and advice.

Men's Advice Line on **0808 801 0327** (Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm).

In an emergency always dial **999** and ask for police. **If you are not safe to speak - call 999 and then press 55.** Follow this link for guidance on the silent calls ("Silent solution"):

[Silent solution guide.pdf \(policeconduct.gov.uk\)](#)

Any stay at home instructions as a result of Covid 19 DOES NOT apply if you need to leave your home to escape domestic abuse.



OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES

Children's Guide to Coronavirus: The guide aims to answer children's questions about coronavirus, tell children how to stay safe and protect other people and how to help them make the best of their time at home.

Click on this link: <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/cco-childrens-guide-to-coronavirus.pdf>

It's never too early to talk to your children about mental health: This leaflet was created to support parents in talking to their children about mental health by encouraging them to express their feelings, respond appropriately, and prevent small problems from snowballing into bigger ones.

<https://www.annafreud.org/media/11396/tmh-parent-leaflet-final-web-updated-by-ed-april-2020.pdf>

Once again, I hope this provides you all with some guidance and additional help and support that you may be in need of at this time. As always, we are still available via a MyEd message, telephone call or email if you need us. These are difficult times, and we are all making our way through them the very best way that we can so remember to be kind to yourselves.

So for now and until we can be together again, which we hope is not far away now, keep safe:



From Mrs Dunstan & The Vaynor Team