



The school building may be closed (to most of you) but learning carries on for everyone remotely!

Thursday 9th April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

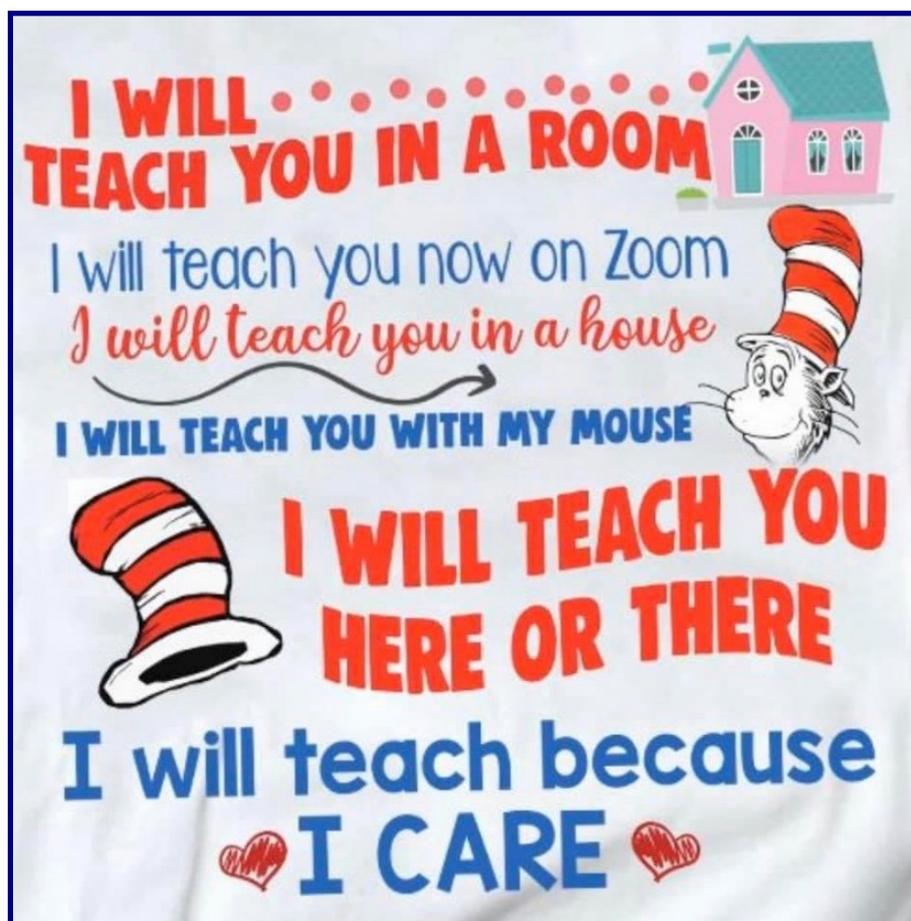
We hope that you are settling in to your new routines, over-coming new challenges and finding a 'new normal' – at least for the meantime!

In this edition of our newsletter you will have access to: new links for education at home; be able to find out about our new Early Years Film - an on-line prospectus; read the most up to date guidance for COVID-19, and hear about some of the generous donations we have received as a school from Oxford University Press and Waitrose in these difficult times. We are also sharing what some of our key worker children have been up to whilst in school with staff over the Easter break.

We hope that most of you manage to have at least a few days to relax a little over the Bank Holiday Weekend, and wish you all a very Happy Easter.

Thinking of all our families at this difficult time,

Sally Miner
Head Teacher





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Our Early Years

As school is closed to most people for the foreseeable future, we have made a film from footage we had taken for our *Language First* Project, as an alternative means of sharing our special setting with prospective new parents for September first hand. We thought you may enjoy a sneaky preview with your child to remind them of their time at Ryders Hayes and see a few more familiar faces— see the link below

Please feel free to share with any new potential families you know, who would have liked to have visited Ryders Hayes under normal circumstances.

Thank you

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fpfzp530_-E



Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better.

Albert Einstein



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OUTDOOR FUN



The children in school have been helping Mr McDonald tend to the school allotment—we are looking forward to seeing the fruit of their labours at a late date.

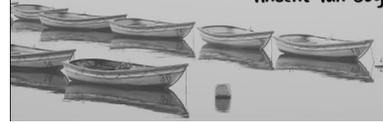
They also used a metal detector on the school field—look at all that treasure! Not quite the Staffordshire Hoard but just as exciting for us.





"The great artist is the simplifier."

Vincent Van Gogh

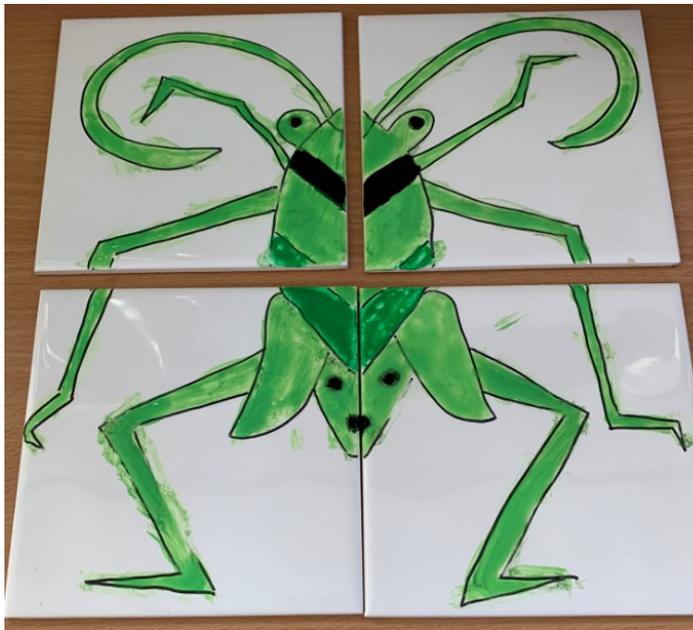


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A selection of the artwork children have created on old white tiles in school this week.

Well done!





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Can you help please?

Urgent request:

Donations of protective equipment required - Social care are asking for donations of protective equipment for use by our front line care workers, care providers, social workers and volunteers when providing critical support to vulnerable residents. Items such as disposable aprons, latex or Nitrell gloves, masks, hand sanitiser and overshoes would be appreciated.



Smart Phones for Children's Services - Due to the Government's advice of staying at home to help reduce the spread of Covid-19, Children's Services are not able to carry out supervised visitations. As a result, foster children are unable to have supervised visits with their parents, and are not getting the opportunity to see or speak to them.

Children's Services are looking for donations of unused personal Smart phones. The Smart phones can then be given to parents so that they are able to make regular contact with their children using the app, WhatsApp.

With your help, Walsall children will be able to maintain supervised contact with their parents.



If you are able to help with any of the above items please contact Julie Tolley on:
j.tolley@ryders-hayes.co.uk

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Resources for Families

Education Resources to support home education

The Department for Education has published a range of free online resources to support children's learning at home. These include resources for English, maths, science, PE, wellbeing and SEND. Access for these resources can be found by following this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-online-education-resources-for-home-education>

These may be useful to parents over the Easter period, when teachers are not setting work for your child, as additional learning. You may want to continue with some of these links next term, but they are not a substitute for our Ryders Hayes Curriculum, which has been designed specifically for our children.



Daily lessons coming soon

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Beginning Monday 20 April, BBC Bitesize will publish daily online lessons for all ages. They will also have a new dedicated TV channel full of learning content, podcasts on BBC Sounds and loads of educational video on iPlayer.

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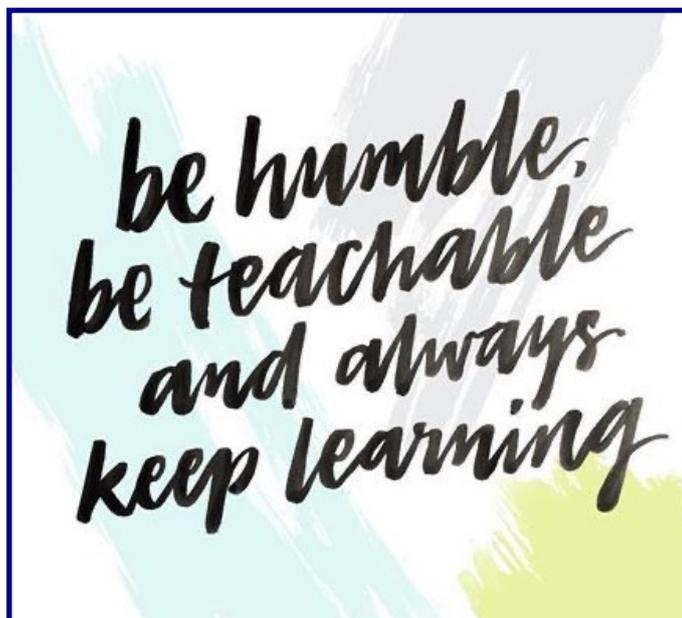
Updated handwashing advice

The most important thing individuals can do to protect themselves is to wash their hands more often. Soap and water and regular handwashing for at least 20 seconds is the best way of staying safe. Hand washing with soap employs mechanical action that loosens bacteria and viruses from the skin, rinsing them into the drain. Drying hands afterwards makes the skin less hospitable to the virus. Hand sanitiser can be effective if soap is not available or the situation makes using soap less feasible (i.e. when outside) but using hand sanitiser provides none of the virus-destroying friction that rubbing your hands together and rinsing with water provides.

The e-Bug project is led by Public Health England and has a dedicated webpage for learning resources on hand washing and respiratory hygiene.

Resources are currently available for KS1, KS2 and KS3 and can be used in various settings including schools and at home:

<https://e-bug.eu/>



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Thank You

Waitrose in Bromsgrove have kindly donated a number of Easter eggs for the children who have been in school this week.

Thank you very much Waitrose (and Mrs Bevan—who has a contact there) the children have very much appreciated the gift of the eggs.

The children and their eggs are pictured below along with a giant rainbow they have created in school this week.

