

Orchard Head J, I & N School Orchard Head Lane Pontefract West Yorkshire WF8 2NJ T: 01977 723495 W: orchardhead.patrust.org.uk E: admin@orchardhead.patrust.org.uk

23rd April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your continued support, and messages of good will, to all the staff working in our schools. It has been a challenging time over the past few weeks, but we are resolute in our dedication to support the families and children in our local community. Like you, we are unsure when the governments lockdown is going to end, but in the interim period, it is important that you know we are still here for you all.

You will have received provisional information about the latest learning packs on Monday 20 April. The packs are available from the school websites under the tab 'Home Learning'. We will continue to update you on any changes and/or additions to the activities we are supplying you with over the course of the lockdown period. Paper copies of the packs have been made available from our hub school De Lacy Primary. If you would like to collect a paper copy of the pack, please can you contact the school directly on 01977 722620 or email the admin team from your child's school on admin@orchardhead.patrust.org.uk indicating your child's name and year group. A physical pack will then be prepared for you.

We will continue to reiterate the message that we fully understand you are not teachers, and also have your own daily routines to keep, so please do not worry if your children are not completing every activity. If possible, help your children work through reading, writing and maths based activities; as best you can. These are the fundamentals skills we want our children to maintain during this unprecedented time. The current learning pack has enough work to last two to three weeks. If your child finishes this pack sooner, please refer to the previously communicated on line links which contain vast volumes of activities and supplementary tasks. Please also see additional links below which you may find useful to support home learning. There is certainly plenty of on line and digital resources available to keep children busy and happy! The next stage of 'home learning' for our children will be more project based. Further information on this will be supplied in due course. Finally, if you click on the Communications tab on the school websites you will see the latest update letter from the CEO of the Trust. In this letter are a range of free and very useful home learning resources provided by Oak National Academy and the BBC. These can be used as you see fit to support the daily routines of your children.

We appreciate the support that you as parents and carers have given the school since the beginning of the pandemic. Your comments, pictures, emails and phone calls have really meant a lot to us. Please keep safe until we are advised that our school can open again. If you need anything, please do not hesitate to ask.

Yours faithfully

Tom Fay Executive Director of Primary Education

Additional Links

www.chattalearning.com – a very useful site (free to join) that promotes family engagement and children's learning ages 3-11

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gC2XfN10N50 – 100 days of mindfulness for children aged 7-13

www.twinkl.co.uk/offer - hundreds of free resources for every year group and every subject. Free access code: UKTWINKLHELPS (requires registration but all resources are free).